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Letter from the President:

Rather be Right than Wrong

Just this morning, my son, Jake, and I were barreling down the road at quite a clip, when I caught a glimpse of a bird in a tree by the side of the road. "Northern Shrike," I shouted. By the time Jake looked up from his phone, we had passed the tree and were already a half mile down the road. "Yeah I missed it," he said. A quick check of the rear view mirror and I could see several cars immediately behind us. No way to turn around until the next intersection.

"What made you think, shrike, Dad?" Jake asked me as we turned back to find the bird. "The white breast and the shape just caught my eye," I said. Even though I didn't express it, I would like to think my quick assessment was part experience, part keen eye, and birding skills honed over time. After all, I have seen a few shrikes over the years and their appearance is well ingrained in my mind. Besides, I was sure I saw the white breast, and the shape of the bird seemed to fit. As we pulled up to the tree, we didn't even need to roll down the window to hear the bird in question sing, "See you, see year." We both looked up to see a cryptically patterned chunky bird with a bright yellow and black breast. All of a sudden there was an awkward silence. "Maybe the Eastern Meadowlark just ate the shrike," I quipped. We both busted out laughing. Boy, I messed that one up!

As we headed back in our original direction, I thought about my mistake for a few minutes. I wasn't the least bit upset or embarrassed. That's not it at all. Still, I wondered how could I have gotten that ID so wrong? The colors of the two species aren't even close and their shapes are completely different. Two clues I relied on heavily in my original snap judgment. A bad look at a Blue Jay? Yeah, maybe that was understandable. But, a meadowlark? I mean it looks nothing like a shrike. Not even close.

Now I'm no psychologist, but I am somewhat curious about the human mind. I think it's utterly amazing that we can identify a bird in a matter of seconds. Think about it for a moment. With just a few visual or audible clues, our minds can sort through hundreds perhaps thousands of possible species and immediately put a name to what we are seeing. By the same token, we can just as easily and quickly blow an ID. I have probably spent too much time thinking about how mistakes are made in birding actually. Despite the time and effort I've devoted to the subject, I have failed to come up with any brilliant complex revelations. My conclusion is actually quite simple. Most mistakes in the field can be summed up in just a few words. A bad look.

This is where the fascinating human mind comes into play. In those situations, where our eyes and ears get only bits and pieces of the identification puzzle, our minds do us a favor and fill in the blanks!

Let's look back at my example with the meadowlark. I neglected to mention I had been thinking about Northern Shrike recently. Maybe it had something to do with the fact that I had yet to see one this year and, as it was getting late in the season, my chances were dwindling. Maybe it had something to do with the fact that I had searched for that exact species just the day prior in a place where many had already seen it. I had left that experience a little disappointed I must admit. Certainly, it had everything to do with the conditions. I got a bad look without binoculars at 50 mph!

Anyway, my point is even the best birders make mistakes, some just bigger and more public than others. (I once tried to turn a juvenile Horned Lark into an out-of-range Sprague's Pipit and then posted about it on a public forum. Whoops!) Actually, I'm not obsessed with failure. In fact, I'd much rather be right than wrong. In order to get better at this hobby however, we need to learn from our errors. If we want to see this hobby grow and succeed, we also need to be more tolerant of others, especially when mistakes are made. So the next time someone calls a male House Finch a Purple Finch, don't just correct them. Let them know the field marks that support the correct identification and give them encouragement. Maybe someday, they'll do the same.

Oh, and I later removed that Sprague's Pipit from my life list.

Matthew Cvetas

Letter from the Editor …

The first time I saw a Barn Owl in Illinois was when Steve Bailey was driving around the southern part of the state on winding roads at nighttime. I had no idea where we were and wondered how he knew where we were, but he found the right place – an old barn in the middle of a field. We stood there in the dark waiting for the owl to fly out of its hole – and it did! The magical, white ghost was no longer a ghost to me. I haven't seen many more Barn Owls than that in Illinois – I did see one flying while driving the countryside of France at midnight with a friend and my sister many many years ago.

Suffice it to say – Barn Owls are secretive and rarely seen. And their numbers have declined in Illinois over the years. But thanks to researchers like Amber Wingert and the Illinois Ornithological Society's annual grants program, we can learn more about this species and discover what's being done to protect them. As part of the grant, the researcher agrees to write an article to be published in *Meadowlark*. I'm excited that Amber has completed her article, which you can find on page 50 in this issue.

Perhaps reading this article will inspire you to continue supporting the Illinois Ornithological Society and its grants program. It might even inspire you to find the right place to erect a Barn Owl nest box. Amber offers advice in her article, and that's based on what her research found, which was partially funded by IOS. For more on other IOS grants for research, visit us on line at illinoisbirds.org.

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Swallow-tailed Kite cover drawing by Denis Kania.

An accomplished birder, artist and international birding trip leader, Kania is manager of natural areas for the St. Charles Park District.

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Barn Owl nesting preferences in Illinois

BY AMBER K. WINGERT, THOMAS J. BENSON AND TERRY L. ESKER

A Barn Owl nestling at about 42 days old sits in a box during research in southern Illinois. Research on the Barn Owl in Illinois was conducted in 2013 and 2014.
Photo by Amber Wingert.

In North America, only 0.1% of tallgrass prairies and 0.02% of oak savannas that existed prior to European settlement remain today (Nuzzo 1986, Samson and Knopf 1994). Most grassland ecosystems have been replaced by woody vegetation, development, or agri-culture (Colvin 1985, Nuzzo 1986, Coppedge et al. 2001). As a result of the precipitous loss of grasslands and savannas that the Midwestern U.S. has experienced, populations of many species native to this habitat, including birds, have declined (Samson and Knopf 1994).

Another issue that may limit populations of grassland birds that nest in cavities is a shortage of nest sites (Drapeau et al. 2009, Franco et al. 2013). These birds traditionally nested in snags and open manmade structures such as barns, but snags have become scarce as landscapes have largely been converted to row-crop agriculture and many old buildings that were suitable for nests have been replaced with newer buildings that birds cannot use (Bagne et al. 2008). To address this shortage of nest sites for cavity-nesting birds, nest boxes have been installed in a variety of habitats. Birds use these nest boxes readily and they commonly produce successful clutches. Nest boxes have been shown to be capable of stabilizing or increasing bird populations that have been limited by a lack of nest sites (Mummert et al. 2002, Lambrechts et al. 2012, Franco et al. 2013).

The Barn Owl, (*Tyto alba pratincola)* is a cavity-nesting grassland species that has declined throughout the Midwestern U.S. for several decades (Tate 1981). Its diet in the Midwest consists mainly of small mammals, particularly voles (*Microtus* spp.). Barn Owls usually breed between March and August, though they can breed year-round. A typical clutch contains five to seven eggs, but clutches as small as three eggs and as large as eleven have been documented. The eggs hatch asynchronously, which results in a clutch of chicks of slightly different ages. The eggs hatch after about 30 days of incubation, and the chicks leave the nest about 64 days after hatching. The female almost never leaves the nest while incubating eggs or brooding young chicks. The male delivers food to his mate until the nestlings are large enough to regulate their own body temperatures, at which point both parents spend nights hunting for food to bring back to the growing chicks. The parents will continue to care for their young for three to five weeks after they fledge, and the young owls often roost together for a few additional weeks.

The conversion of grasslands into agricultural or developed areas has cost Barn Owls both suitable foraging habitat and nest sites in the Midwest. To help reverse this trend and support Barn Owl populations, many states, including Illinois, have installed nest boxes in or near grassland habitat. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) placed >300 nest boxes in barns and on poles in 53 counties, mostly within the last seven years. At the start of our study, many of these boxes had never been monitored to document their occupancy. Our objectives were to document the usage of nest boxes by Barn Owls, determine if nests inside nest boxes were successfully fledging young owls, identify local and landscape factors that may influence nest box selection and nest success, and provide guidance for the placement of additional Barn Owl boxes.

In 2013 and 2014, we visited Barn Owl nest boxes distributed across the southern half of Illinois. We checked all nest boxes south of Marion County at least twice during each field season for Barn Owl activity. If we found an active nest, we revisited it every two weeks until the nest fledged or failed. In order to minimize disturbance at the nest, we checked each box with a pole-mounted camera which sent a live image to a monitor on the ground (Huebner and Hurteau 2007). In all, during two field seasons, we checked 280 nest boxes and nests that were discovered outside of boxes (in trees or manmade structures). We conducted 1,282 individual site visits. We located and monitored 82 nests at 58 unique sites. Multiple nests were active during both field seasons, and several nesting pairs initiated a second nesting attempt once their first brood fledged or failed (six in 2013, one in 2014). Of the 82 nests we monitored, 46 nests fledged at least 1 nestling, typically 3 to 5. 26 nests failed; the causes of failure that we documented include parental abandonment (including death of a parent), nestling disease, human disturbance, and depredation at sites that lacked proper predator guards. We were unable to determine the fate of the final ten nests due to the late start date of their initiation. These nests were still active in August 2013 or August 2014, when each full-time field season concluded. In 2013, the Barn Owls we observed began nesting in early February, with the latest nests initiated in June. In 2014, we observed Barn Owls nesting starting in late February with the latest nests initiated in late May. An estimated 170 Barn Owls fledged successfully in two years from monitored nests.

A nearly fledged clutch of young Barn Owls sit in a box in southern Illinois. This photo was taken during research done on Barn Owls in 2013 and 2014.
Photo by Amber Wingert.

After collecting two years of data, we compared the land cover at active versus inactive owl boxes to look for similarities among the boxes that were selected by Barn Owls for nesting. We used land-cover data from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS 2014) for our analysis, restricting our focus to a 2-km radius around each nest box. The predominant types of land cover included grassland/pasture, corn, soybeans, open water, developed area, and deciduous forest. Our analysis also included the latitude, the distance of the box from a major road and the type of nest box used. The different types of nest boxes included pole-mounted versus barn-mounted and plastic versus wood.

The results of our analysis indicated that Barn Owls were most likely to occupy sites with a high amount of grassland or pasture cover and a low amount of corn cover. Nests with higher grassland cover also had higher survival rates. These finding were unsurprising due to the availability of prey for Barn Owls in open grasslands. Row-cropped fields have been found to support fewer voles than grasslands (Lyman 2012, Heisler et al. 2013) and may contain harmful pesticides (Mendenhall et al. 1983). Barn Owls may also avoid hunting in corn fields due to the difficulty of navigating among the tall stalks (Arlettaz et al. 2010). The owls in our study were more likely to occupy nest boxes in southern counties with mild winters. Barn Owls showed no preference for any particular type of nest box. Plastic and wood boxes installed in barns and on poles had similar usage and nest survival rates. Wooden boxes have the benefit of being less expensive to build, and pole-mounted boxes are simple to install and can be placed in any open grassland landscape, offering great placement flexibility. Our results indicate that there are more Barn Owls nesting in Illinois than was previously documented. Based on these results and a continued increase in known nesting pairs in Illinois, the Illinois DNR has proposed delisting the Barn Owl to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board. Where grasslands remain, there is hope for the recovery and sustainability of Barn Owl populations.

If you are interested in placing Barn Owl boxes on your property, the ideal location is an open grassland of at least 500 acres, preferably in the warmer southern portion of Illinois. Nest boxes should be placed in the middle of grasslands rather than on tree lines, and not directly adjacent to major roads or powerlines. Barn Owls seem to prefer hunting in grass that is knee-length or shorter. Owl boxes can be purchased or built yourself (Barn Owl Box Company, Pittsburgh, PA; IDNR 2012; Wade et al. 2012). The plans for this wooden pole-mounted box include several key provisions for predator resistance, including a carefully sized entrance hole, a dual-compartment layout, and the absence of a perch at the entrance. The pole-mounted models are favored by the Illinois DNR for their durability and protection from predators.

If you wish to install a box inside a barn, it is important that the owl box entrance opens to the outside of the barn (this necessitates cutting a hole in the outer wall of the barn). Owl boxes placed in the rafters of barns without a quick exit are rarely discovered by Barn Owls looking for a home, and are more likely to house raccoons or pigeons. They also cannot be adequately guarded against nest predators. Predator guards are crucial to the success of an owl nesting in a box, whether it is mounted in a barn or on a pole. For a box mounted on a barn wall, placing a wide square sheet metal around the entrance will keep cats and raccoons from climbing up the wall and into the nest. Pole-mounted boxes can be protected by baffles or spikes. If you are lucky enough to have Barn Owls nest on your property, consider notifying the Illinois DNR to help them track the state's breeding population. To ensure the survival of the young owls, take care not to disturb your local Barn Owl nests. Nests with publicized locations and easy access frequently fail because nests are abandoned or the nestlings die after repeated disturbance by visitors. Even if your nest box does not attract owls, Barn Owl boxes are frequently used by American Kestrels, Wood Ducks, Eastern Bluebirds, and Tree Swallows. For more information on Barn Owl recovery efforts, see the Illinois Barn Owl Recovery Plan (Walk et al. 2010).

A researcher checks a nest box with a pole-mounted camera and monitor in southern Illinois for research done in 2013 and 2014. Photo by Amber Wingert.

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This study received support from the Illinois Natural History Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Illinois Department of Natural Resources through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration, Champaign County Audubon Society, and the Illinois Ornithological Society. We thank the Illinois DNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and various private landowners for allowing us access to our study sites.

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Twenty-first Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

BY GEOFFREY A. WILLIAMSON

Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC or "the Committee") are reported here for a total of 126 records, including 95 accepted records of 48 species and one subspecific form, 30 unaccepted records of 23 species and one subspecific form, and one unaccepted breeding record involving one species. A total of 98 observers contributed reports, including descriptions and photographs documenting these records. Without the documentary efforts of these observers, no archival information would exist for preserving the records. The Committee sincerely thanks the contributing observers for their input, regardless of the outcome of the Committee's evaluations.

We continue to follow the conventions used in the first 20 reports of the Committee, for example Sweet and Williamson (2015), Sweet (2013) and Stotz (2012). The records below are divided into two groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. The Accepted group is further divided into Review List Records and Other Records. The Unaccepted group is divided into Potential First State Records, Review List Records, Other Records, and Breeding Records. Nomenclature, English names and sequence of species conform to that of the 7th edition of the *Check-list of North American Birds* (American Ornithologists' Union 1998) and its supplements, through the 58th (Chesser et al. 2017).

Accepted records are entered with the locality, including county; the date; the IORC record number (in parentheses, the year of initial observation followed by a serial number); and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed specimens, descriptions, and/or photographs. Similar information is provided for unaccepted records, except the observers remain anonymous, and a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted is given. The initials of a contributor without any further modification indicate that they contributed solely written documentation. When additional information was provided, a colon follows the observer's initials with the following codes: p for photographic evidence, v for video, s for sound recording, and sp for a specimen. Many contributing photographers also submitted written documentation, a practice that the Committee strongly encourages. If the observer who first discovered the bird is known to the committee, that observer's initials are set off from the initials of other contributors by a semicolon. Initial observers who did not submit documentation are not always listed. For specimen records, a sharp (#) follows an abbreviation for the institution holding the specimen, along with that institution's catalog number of the specimen if available.

The Committee does not always take a position on the age or sex of a bird, and any such information given may be the observer's opinion, rather than the Committee's. All other remarks are the author's, although most of the information comes from the Committee files, which are now stored in Chicago, Illinois, in the Bird Division of the Field Museum of Natural History.

In those cases where there are discrepancies between the details presented here and other published records, the data provided here represent the Committee's best assessment of all available information. Date ranges for records reflect both the evidence in submitted documentation and also information available to the Committee from other sources when judged by the Committee to be valid. Such sources include internet bulletin boards and listserves, eBird (Sullivan et al. 2009), and personal communications. We have not generally commented on records that are published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here. The Committee accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to our attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.

Documentation and Review List

The Committee continues to encourage all observers of rare birds to submit documentation, even when multiple observers are involved in a sighting. Some records are deemed unacceptable due to incomplete information, which can often be resolved by additional documentation. Photos are of course invaluable resources for the Committee, but even with high quality photographs available there are times when a tricky identification can be resolved only from written details not depicted in photos. The best practice is for observers to submit documentation directly to the Committee, even if it involves strictly photos. One should not assume that documentary evidence available in the variety of public fora on the internet will make it to the Committee.

The Review List includes species for which the Committee will review all records, or all records outside of some determined region or range of dates within the state. Generally, these are species that average two or fewer records per year in the state or which are extremely rare in all but a few counties. IORC requests and welcomes evidence concerning all records for those species listed on the review list.

The current Review List, available at http://www.illinoisbirds.org/illinois-ornithological-records-committee/, was most recently updated at the 12 February 2017 meeting of IORC. Changes adopted at that meeting included removal of California Gull (previously, non-adult plumages were on the Review List) and addition to the list of Pacific Loon and Tricolored Heron. The Committee considered removing Prairie Falcon, but decided to keep it, in part because many of the recent records pertain to the regular wintering site in Coles County.

In addition, any species not listed in the Illinois State List of Birds (available at http://www.illinoisbirds.org/the-birds-of-illinois/) should be documented. In some cases, documentation of regularly occurring species may be warranted. These instances may include out of season occurrences, first state nesting records, and exceptionally high counts of species. Documentation in these cases should also be sent to the seasonal report editor for the appropriate season. These may be considered by the Committee, as well as documentations submitted for the Christmas Bird Count and Spring Bird Count.

Abbreviations

CBCM	Chicago Bird Collision Monitors
FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History

Observers and Documenters

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Nine Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks. Rochelle. Ogle County. 12 August 2014.Photo by Karen M. Lund.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Accepted Records of Review List Species

(Eighty-nine records of 45 species.)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) Nine in Yorkville, Kendall Co. during 21-30 May 2014 (2014-008; GAW:p). These birds were first noted by Irene Kaufman in her Yorkville yard some days prior to 21 May 2014, on which date the birding community became aware of them. A photograph of all nine is published in Meadowlark 23(4):139 and of a subset in Meadowlark 23(4):142. One at South Pond in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 21 June 2014 (2014-009; GAW:p). This bird was found by Steven J. Huggins, and a photograph of it appears in Hengeveld et al. (2015a). One at Beardstown Marsh, Cass Co., 7-13 July 2014 (2014-042; DLB:p; TH:p). Nine in Rochelle, Ogle Co., 11-12 August 2014 (2014-046; KML:p). This group was found by Steve Torre; the possibility exists that these are the

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck. Lincoln Park, Chicago. Cook County. 21 June 2014. Photo by Geoff Williamson.

same birds as those associated with record 2014-008 appearing above.

Cinnamon Teal (*Spatula cyanoptera*) One male at Spillway Marsh in the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Madison Co., 8-9 April 2014 (2014-001; BMe:p).

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*) One at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason Co., 29 August 2014 (2014-015; ASA:p). A photograph of this bird appears in Meadowlark 24(2):61.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) One male on the Fox River in Elgin, Kane Co., 9 November 2014 – 31 January 2015 (2014-037; MMC:p). This bird was found by Patrick Ricketson. On 31 January 2015, it became tangled in some fishing line and was captured and brought to Willowbrook Wildlife Center.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) One male on the Fox River near West Dundee, Kane Co., 17 January – 28 February 2015 (2015-002; JH:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(3):110. One female on Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co., 14 March 2015 (2015-014; HDB). One male at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 20-28 March 2015 (2015-010; CLH:p, DMK:p). This bird was first found by Bernard and Pauline Morris; see Meadowlark 24(4):142 for a photograph. One male on the Fox River at Carpentersville, Kane Co., 6 December 2015 – 27 February 2016 (2015-058; AS, RG:p).

Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) One on the Lincoln Park Zoo grounds in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 6-20 November 2015 (2015-045; MMC:p, FRM:p, GAW:p). This bird was found initially by Matthew Igleski. One dead bird found and collected near McGraw Park, Bloomington, McLean Co., 18 October 2015 (2015-050; RM:sp, p; MEF). This specimen was brought to the vertebrate collection at the Illinois State University.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) One female found dead in Chicago, Cook Co., 12 May 2015 (2015-035; CBCM:sp FMNH #500340; JIE:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(4):143.

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*) One at Dixon Waterfowl Refuge, Putnam Co., 5 September 2014 (2014-054; DFS).

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*) One at Montrose Beach in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 3-11 May 2015 (2015-018; GWB:p, MMC:p, PWS:p, GAW:p). This individual was found by Mike Miller, and photographs are published in Meadowlark 24(4):132, Meadowlark 24(4):147, and Hengeveld et al. (2016c).

Cinnamon Teal. *Riverlands. Madison County. 8 April 2014. Photo by Benjamin McGuire.*

Male Harlequin Duck. *Elgin, Kane County. 18 January 2015. Photo by Matthew Cvetas.*

Barrow's Goldeneye. *Kane County. 8 December 2015. Photo by Russ Goulding.*

Common Ground-Dove. *Cook County. 6 November 2015. Photo by Fran Morel.*

Snowy Plover. *Cook County. 7 May 2015. Photo by G. Ward Boulton.*

Ruff. *Wayne and Richland Counties. 2 May 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.*

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) One at Bailey Wetland, Richland and Wayne counties, 2 May 2015 (2015-025; CLH:p). See Meadowlark 24(4):148 for a photograph.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) One juvenile at Weldon Springs State Park, DeWitt Co., 22-23 November 2014 (2014-019; BM:p; RB:p, TW:p, DW:p, DTW:p). Two photographs appear in Meadowlark 24(2):67.

Little Gull. *Waukegan. Lake County. 6 June 2015. Photo by Patrick Ricketson.*

White Ibis. *Clinton County. 12 September 2015. Photo by Keith McMullen.*

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One juvenile at Waukegan, Lake Co., 28 September 2014 (2014-048; AM:p). A photograph is published in Meadowlark 24(2):67. One juvenile at Wau-kegan, Lake Co., 13 September 2015 (2015-037; AM:p).

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) One immature at Horseshoe Lake State Park, Madison Co., 15-19 July 2015 (2015-030; DH:p, KAM:p, DTW). This bird was found by Frank R. Holmes, and photographs appear in Hengeveld et al. (2016c).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) One adult at Waukegan, Lake Co., 25 April 2015 (2015-016: AWS). One immature at Waukegan, 6 June 2015 (2015-022; PR:p). One immature at Lake Shelbyville, Moultrie Co., 18 October – 7 November 2015 (2015-043; TDF:p, TAM:p; RB:p).

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) One adult at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake and at North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor, Lake Co., 14-23 February 2014 (2014-053; AAA:p; NAL:p, GAW:p). This individual was first found by Amar Ayyash and Maarten van Kleinwee at the Lake County Fairgrounds, where it was seen throughout the observation period. The same individual, as determined by feather details, was noted at North Point Marina on 15 February 2014, after having been seen at the fairgrounds earlier that day. A photograph from 23 February 2014 appears in Meadowlark 23(3):100, though it is erroneously labeled as being from 24 February 2014, and another photograph is included in American Birding Association (2015a). One adult or near adult on the Illinois River in East Peoria, Tazewell Co. and adjacent Peoria, Peoria Co., 11 January 2015 (2015-004; DJM:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(3):113. One adult at Chicago's Calumet Park, Cook Co., 7 February 2015 (2015-005; GAW:p). Photographs are published in Meadowlark 24(3):113 and Hengeveld et al. (2016a). One sub-adult on the Mississippi River at Hampton, Rock Island Co., 25 November 2015 (2015-054; JF:p).

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) One adult at Waukegan, Lake Co., 19-20 August 2015 (2015-031; AM:p).

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) One at Sun Lake Forest Preserve, Lake Co., 21 October 2015 (2015-044; PW:p).

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) One adult female at Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 8 July 2015 (2015-028; JIE). This bird is thought to be the same individual that was observed during 9-13 July 2015 in St. Joseph, Berrien Co., Michigan (Svingen 2016).

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) One immature at Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co., 12-23 June 2013 (2013-066; HDB). One adult at Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co., 19-20 July 2013 (2013-067; HDB:p). A photograph of this bird appears in Meadowlark 23(1):19. One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 13 April 2014 (2014-035; DMK:p).

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) One at Oakwood Bottoms, Jackson Co., 29 May 2014 (2014-006; REF).

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) One adult at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Champaign Co., 14 May 2011 (2011-037; RK:p). A photo of this bird appears in Meadowlark 20(4):145. One immature at Bailey Wetland in Richland and Wayne counties, 10-22 July 2014 (2014-045; CLH:p, RES:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(1):26 and in Hengeveld et al. (2015a). One adult at Eldon Hazlet State Park, Clinton Co., 12 September 2015 (2015-041; KAM:p, AS:p). This bird was originally found by Joseph W. Eades.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) One immature in Pingree Grove, Kane Co., 5-11 November 2015 (2015-049; MMC, GG:p, MM:p). This bird was first found by Tim Balassie.

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) One at Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co., 29 November 2013 (2013-064; HDB:p). The bird was first located by Sue and Tim Hargrove, and a photograph of it appears in Meadowlark 23(2):68 and in Hengeveld et al. (2014).

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) This report includes four records: one from the northern tier, one from the central, and two from the northern portion of the southern tier. This species is occurring more frequently away from the southern tier and may be expanding its range within the southern tier. One in Woodford Co., 10 June 2013 (2013-013; TH). One at Ft. Sheridan Forest Preserve, Lake Co., 19 October 2014 (2014-018; AWS). Two near Luka, Marion Co., 8 March 2015 (2015-023; CLH:p); a photograph of one of them appears in Meadowlark 24(4):152. One east of Iola, Clay Co., 6 May 2015 (2015-024; CLH:p); see Meadowlark 24(4):152 for a photograph.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) One at Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve, Lake Co., 1 September 2012 (2012-053; KA). One in Champaign, Champaign Co., 24 August – 7 September 2015 (2015-034; WL:p; MMC:p, CE, DBJ:p, DTW:p).

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) This report contains seven records. One in Havana, Mason Co., 9 August 2014 (2014-051; KW). One northwest of El Paso, Woodford Co., 2 April 2015 (2015-012; TH). One west of Diona, Coles Co., 18 April 2015 (2015-062; JEB:p); see Meadowlark 24(4):154 for a photograph. One male found dead in Romeoville, Will Co., 12 May 2015 (2015-007; CBCM:sp FMNH #496668; JIE:p). Two found dead in Sharpsburg, Christian Co., 7 September 2015 (2015-040; KV:p). One in Chicago, Cook Co., 7 November 2015 (2015-046; SJH:p). One at the University of Illinois Arboretum, Champaign Co., 29 November 2015 (2015-057; GSL:p).

Swallow-tailed Kite. Champaign County. 2 September 2015. Photo by David B. Johnson.

Black Vulture. Marion County. 8 March 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Black Vulture. Clay County. 6 May 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Burrowing Owl (*Scientific name*) One at Montrose Point in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 6 and 15 October 2012 (2012-052; JIE:p; JC, MMC:p, JG:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 22(2):69. One in Groveland Township, LaSalle Co., 19-20 October 2015 (2015-059; DC:p).

Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) One in north-central Coles Co., 16 January 2015 (2015-009; RB:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(3):117.

Barn Owl. Champaign County. 29 November 2015. Photo by Greg Lambeth.

Barn Owl. Cook County. 7 November 2015. Photo by Steve Huggins

Barn Owl. Found dead in Will County. 25 February 2015. Photo by Joshua Engel.

Say's Phoebe. Cook County. 1 April 2015. Photo by Geoff Williamson.

Violet-green Swallow. Cook County. 9 May 2015. Photo by Joshua Engel.

Cave Swallow. Lake County. 20 November 2015. Photo by Nat Carmichael.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) One at Judson University in Elgin, Kane Co., 5 October 2014 (2014-013; EES). One in eastern LaSalle Co., 14 March 2014 (2014-021; REF). One to two in Coles Co., 25 October 2014 – 8 February 2015 (2014-038; TDF:p). These falcons were seen by many observers. Two birds were first noted 31 October 2014, with sightings of two occurring occasionally from then until 4 February 2015. A photograph of one of the birds is published in Meadowlark 24(3):117. One east of Buffalo, Sangamon Co., 6 January 2015 (2015-008; HDB:p). See Meadowlark 24(3):117 for a photograph. One to two in Coles Co., 8 November 2015 – 13 March 2016 (2015-051; TDF:p). Perhaps these are the individuals from record 2014-038 (see above), returning to winter in the same area. Two birds were first seen together on 13 November 2015 and last on 19 February 2016.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) One at the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Co., 30 August 2012 (2012-048; PWS). One at Miller Meadows Forest Preserve, Cook Co., 31 March – 2 April 2015 (2015-011; KB:p; GAW:p). Photographs appear in Meadowlark 24(4):155 and Hengeveld et al. (2016b).

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) One in Springfield, Sangamon Co., 29-30 September 2014 (2014-017; VMK:p; HDB:p). This bird was captured, banded, and measured at the Lincoln Land Community College banding station on 29 September and seen near there on 30 September. This record is the fourth to be accepted for Illinois. Two photographs are published in Meadowlark 24(2):72, and another appears in Meadowlark 24(4):126.

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) One at the Northwestern University Lakefill, Evanston, Cook Co., 9 May 2015 (2015-019; JIE:p; MMC). This is the state's third accepted record; a photograph is published in Meadowlark 24(4):130.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) Two at Montrose Point in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 8 November 2012 (2012-049; RCP). Two at the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Co., 7 November 2015 (2015-048; BL). One at the South Unit of Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Co., 20 November 2015 (2015-052; NC:p, AFS). One at the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Co., 20 November 2015 (2015-053; JPL, GEN:p, AOS). There is a question as to whether the two 20 November 2015 records pertain to the same bird; the observation times were one to two hours apart in different portions of the state park.

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) One in McLeansboro, Hamilton Co., 20 May – 3 June 2015 (2015-021; CLH:p, RES:p); see Meadowlark 24(4):157 for a photograph.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) One at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Cook Co., 13 November 2014 (2014-049: AFS). One near Schapville, Jo Daviess Co., 15 November 2014 (2014-047; RMs:p). A photograph is published in Hengeveld et al. (2015b). One at the Lost Mound Unit of Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge, Jo Daviess Co., 19 December 2014 (2014-020; DTW). One at Waukegan, Lake Co., 14 April 2015 (2015-015; NC:p). A photograph of this individual appears in Meadowlark 24(4):158.

Townsend's Solitaire. Waukegan. Lake County. 14 April 2015. Photo by Nat Carmichael.

Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) One at Montrose Point in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 18 June – 1 July 2014 (2014-002; NRG:p, RDH:p). This bird was initially found by Luis G. Muñoz and seen and photographed by many observers. It provided

Townsend's Solitaire. Jo Daviess County. 15 November 2014. Photo by Richard Mattas.

the state's second accepted record. Muñoz (2015) provides a detailed account, including photographs, and a photograph also appears in American Birding Association (2015b).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) One in Chicago's Jackson Park, Cook Co., 15 February – 2 March 2015 (2015-006; RLS, GAW:p). Brandon Berger made the initial discovery of this bird. Photographs of it are published in Meadowlark 24(3):121, on the back cover of Meadowlark 24(3), and in Hengeveld et al. (2016a).

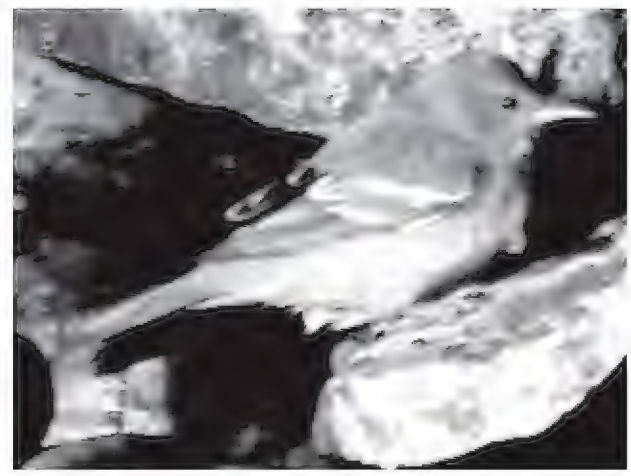
Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) One in Oak Park, Cook Co., 28 February 2008 (2008-054; AG, EDG:p). One at Klehm Arboretum, Rockford, Winnebago Co., 22 December 2012 (2012-047; DTW). One at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Cook Co., 6-16 January 2013 (2013-069; MMC, NRG:p, NAL:p, JRRS:p). One to two at William Powers Conservation Area, Chicago, Cook Co., 6 February – 13 March 2015 (2015-003; ASA:p; MMC:p, GAW:p). One bird was found on 6 February by Andrew S. Aldrich and Joshua Little, and two were noted by Geoffrey A. Williamson on 15 February. Photographs appear in Meadowlark 24(3):121 and in Hengeveld et al. (2016a).

Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) One at a residence near Valmayer, Monroe Co., 13 December 2015 – 21 April 2016 (2015-061; TE:p; CD, PD:p).

Cassin's Sparrow (*Peucaea cassinii*) One bird salvaged in Chicago, Cook Co., 8 September 2014 (2014-040; ML:sp FMNH #495668; JIE:p). This individual perished following a window strike, providing the state's third accepted record and first specimen record. A photograph of the specimen is published in Meadowlark 24(2):78.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) One at Montrose Point in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 17 October 2014 (2014-014; JWL, JA:p). A photograph appears in Meadowlark 24(2):78.

Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) One coming to a feeder east of Joppa, Massac Co., 21 November 2014 (2014-039; JES:p). Photographs of this bird are published in Meadowlark 24(2):80 and in Hengeveld et al. (2015b). One in River Forest, Cook Co., 14 October 2015 (2015-042; JSA:p). These represent the second and third records for Illinois, and they are the first for which physical evidence is on file. The first record involved a bird in Randolph Co. on 3 May 1986 that was reported in Goetz and Robinson (1988).



Bullock's Oriole. Cook County. 14 October 2015. Photo by Jill Anderson.

Green-tailed Towhee. Monroe County. 19 December 2015. Photo by Penny DauBach.

Kirtland's Warbler. Montrose, Chicago. Cook County. 16 May 2015. Photo by Geoffrey Williamson.

Black-throated Gray Warbler. Lawrence County. 26 April 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) Two east-southeast of McClure, Alexander Co., 9 and 23 May 2015 (2015-039; ID, RSR).

Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) One male at Montrose Point in Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 16-17 May 2015 (2015-020; MMC:p, GAW:p). This individual was discovered independently by B.J. Worth and by Dave Richardson. A photograph is published in Meadowlark 24(4):144.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*) One at Judson University in Elgin, Kane Co., 5-6 May 2014 (2014-007; EES:p; SAC:p). A photograph of this bird appears in Meadowlark 23(4):160. One male at Red Hills State Park, Lawrence Co., 26 April 2015 (2015-017; CLH:p); see Meadowlark 24(4):162 for a photograph.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Accepted Records of Other Species and Subspecies (Five records of three species and one record of one subspecies form.)

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) At the time of these records, this species in immature plumages was on the Review List. California Gull was removed from the Review List entirely at the 12 February 2017 meeting of IORC. One first cycle individual at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 6 October and 3 November 2013 (2013-062; DMK:p). One first cycle individual at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 27 and 29 September and 26 October 2014 (2014-012; DMK:p, GAW:p). This bird was first identified by Colin Dobson. One first cycle individual at

Lock and Dam No. 13, Whiteside Co., 5 December 2015 (2015-055; DTW).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) One adult at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason Co., 26 September 2014 (2014-016; SNB).

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*) One in Louisville, Clay Co., 6 May 2015 (2015-026; CLH:p). This species is occurring north of its regular range more often.

Dark-eyed Junco (Gray-headed) (*Junco hyemalis caniceps*) One in a backyard in Forreston, Ogle Co., 26-27 April 2013 (2013-058; ASt:p).

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Unaccepted Records of Possible First State Records (three records of two species.)

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) One at Lake Bloomington, McLean Co., 29 January – 11 February 2013 (2013-004). Through the several rounds of voting it took to reach a decision, the Committee was split on the question of origin for this individual. The negative outcome was accompanied by calls to undertake a comprehensive review of all Barnacle Goose sightings in the state, going back to at least 1983. This record is mentioned in Hengeveld et al. (2013b).

'Gray-headed' Dark-eyed Junco. Forreston. Ogle County. 26 April 2013. Photo by Ann Straight.

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 13 April 2013 (2013-010). Though most Committee members felt that Little Stint could not be ruled out, they also felt that there was not a clear-cut case for identification as that species. Opinions solicited from European experts reflected to some extent the same views: though there was support for identification as a Little Stint, unanimity for and complete comfort with that conclusion was lacking. Given that this record would constitute a first state record, the Committee's decision was on the cautious side. One west of Havana, Fulton Co., 9 August 2015 (2015-032). The Committee had concerns about accepting a first state record without physical evidence for a species in a group whose identification is tricky. Given that the written details from just one observer did not describe all the aspects of the bird that Committee members were interested to evaluate, the Committee was unanimous in not accepting the record.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Unaccepted Records of Review List Species (Twenty-three records of 18 species.)

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*) One at Sangchris Lake State Park, Sangamon Co., 29 October and 16 November 2013 (2013-065). The Committee felt that this may very well be a Mottled Duck, but concerns were raised that the brief description and poor photos did not sufficiently exclude other possibilities, in particular hybrid forms, in a group of species and hybrids involving difficult identification issues. Mention of this sighting appears in Johnson (2014) and in Hengeveld et al. (2014).

Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) One at Chicago's Lincoln Park, Cook Co., 22 February 2014 (2014-052). The written description lacked comment on important details such as the shape and color of the bill and the shape of the bird, and the observation was made at long range.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) One female-plumaged bird at Peoria Lake, Tazewell Co., 22 November 2015 (2015-056). The Committee felt that the details observed were not conclusive enough to secure an identification as a Barrow's Goldeneye. Separating female Barrow's and Common Goldeneyes is a difficult identification problem, in part because it is possible for Common Goldeneyes to have orange- or yellow-colored bills. Details about the head and bill shape thus have importance. The sparse detail in the description regarding these features together with the photograph not being helpful factored into the Committee's hesitancy to accept this record.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) One in Streator, LaSalle Co., 23 August to 21 September 2014 (2014-050). Several Committee members noted that this bird may very well have been a Broad-billed Hummingbird, but the Committee was unanimous that more complete details are warranted to support that identification. Hummingbirds are a difficult group, and pinning a remarkable record such as this to species needs such details to support arguments eliminating other species.

Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*) Two observed west of Ullin in Alexander and Pulaski Cos., 16 & 23 November 2013 (2013-061). The birds that were documented were almost certainly Whooping Cranes; however, the documentation did not include any description of the birds. It was also noted that were they Whooping Cranes, the birds would likely be from the introduced Wisconsin population, in which case the record would not be accepted based on origin.

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) One at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason Co., 31 August 2014 (2014-010). This record went through four rounds of review by the Committee, and in the end the Committee was split on whether to accept it. The Committee noted the unfortunate fact that this bird was observed by many individuals but documented only by one, thereby depriving the record of additional support that independent views might have provided. Committee members on both sides of the split decision expressed opinions that more thorough details

regarding the bird, direct arguments about how other species were eliminated, and documentation by additional observers all would have been welcomed and potentially strengthened the case for the proposed identification.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) One at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason Co., 1 September 2014 (2014-041). The description of the bird was very brief and was not sufficient to eliminate confusion species. Photographs were said to have been taken but were not submitted to IORC despite repeated requests to do so.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One at Emiquon Preserve, Fulton Co., 15 September 2013 (2013-027). The Committee felt that the other two jaeger species were not eliminated by the description but accepted the record as pertaining to jaeger sp.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) One at Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge, Fulton Co., 4 September 2015 (2015-036). Among the concerns raised were the absence of a description of plumage and other features (aside from size) that would eliminate Bonaparte's Gull (and other species) and a lack of discussion of why Sabine's Gull or Black-legged Kittiwake should be eliminated. Several Committee members felt that the initial sense that the bird was a Franklin's Gull made the record problematic.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) One at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason Co., 14 June 2014 (2014-044). There is inherent difficulty in identification of the medium-sized terns. In this case, most of the Committee found the photos inconclusive about the specific identity and felt that the written documentation did not conclusively resolve which medium-sized tern this was.

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) One at Emiquon Preserve, Fulton Co., 4 August 2013 (2013-056). Two rounds of voting were needed to reach a decision that identification as a Royal Tern was not definitively established. Points of concern included the lack of observation of the underwings and that various age classes of Caspian Tern were not ruled out. Though this bird was observed by several individuals, only one submitted documentation. Mention of this sighting appears in Hengeveld et al. (2014). One in Oak Brook, DuPage Co., 22 August 2015 (2015-033). The Committee was split in its opinion about this record, with the majority opinion against acceptance being that the description and the circumstances of the sighting allowed a strong enough possibility that it involved a Caspian Tern.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) One at Anderson Lake, Fulton Co., 13 July 2015 (2015-029). The Committee was split on this record, but a majority felt that the brief description in a case where identification can be tricky left too much doubt to accept the record.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) Four records of the species were not accepted by the Committee, with concerns that cormorants were not adequately excluded in each case. One at Greene Valley Forest Preserve, DuPage Co., 16 September 2012 (2012-051). One particular concern in this case was that the terminal tail band of Anhinga was not observed. One at the Morton Arboretum, DuPage Co., 21 September 2013 (2013-068). One at Greene Valley Forest Preserve, DuPage Co., 6 September 2014 (2014-011). This record went through several rounds of voting. One in Oswego, Kendall Co., 22 April 2014 (2014-043). Among other issues, the observed crook in the neck of this individual was noted by some Committee members as a feature better for cormorant than Anhinga.

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) One at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Williamson Co., 29 June 2013 (2013-059). The Committee felt the bird might very well be a Reddish Egret, but the evidence presented did not sufficiently exclude the possibility of it being a Little Blue Heron. In particular, a description of the bird's bill, an important field mark, was not included in the documentation.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) One at Homer Lake Preserve, Champaign Co., 4 August 2012 (2012-054). The brevity of the description, the short duration of the observation, and aspects of the quality of the view of the bird created enough doubt so that the Committee was not comfortable in accepting the record. Mention of this sighting appears in Johnson (2013) and in Hengeveld et al. (2013a).

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) One in Bureau Co., 5 May 2014 (2014-003). One at Winthrop Harbor, Lake Co., 27 July 2014 (2014-004). In both these records, the documentation did not adequately rule out the possibility of this bird being a Horned Lark, and indeed was more supportive of identification as that species.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) Two at Coalfield Rest Stop on I-57, Montgomery Co., 10 May 2015 (2015-027). The Committee was uncomfortable to accept this record given the brevity of the documentary details.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) One at Franklin Creek State Park, Lee Co., 3 May 2014 (2014-005). The Committee felt that the bird that was documented might very well be a Swainson's Warbler, but the evidence presented did not sufficiently exclude the possibility that it was a different species such as Warbling Vireo or Tennessee Warbler. Only one of three observers documented the observation; the Committee felt that input from the other two observers would have been helpful.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Unaccepted Records of Other Species and Subspecies (Three records of the three species and one record of one subspecific form.)

Mallard (Mexican) (*Anas platyrhynchos diazi*) One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co., 23 March 2014 (2014-034). Most of the Committee were uncertain about the taxon to which this individual belongs, given the available evidence. In particular, there were concerns about how one would exclude various other members of the mallard complex or hybrids among them.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) One at Lake Renwick, Will Co., 4 May 2013(2013-060). The written

documentation was not sufficient to determine identity as an Eared Grebe.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) One at McClaughrey Springs Forest Preserve, Cook Co., 10 March 2012 (2012-046). Committee members had concerns that the circumstances of the observation and descriptive details did not completely exclude the possibility of Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, or Cooper's Hawk.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) One at Chicago's Humboldt Park, Cook Co., 14 November 2013 (2013-033). Most Committee members felt that there was not sufficient evidence to conclude definitive identification to any species of swift. However, the Committee agreed that there is a strong possibility of this bird being a late Chimney Swift. This sighting was published as pertaining to Chimney Swift in Hengeveld et al. (2013) and in Johnson (2014).

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Unaccepted Breeding Records

(One breeding record involving one species.)

LeConte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) Two adults and one or two juveniles suspected as a family group post-breeding at Perry Farm Park Prairie, Kankakee Co., 29 August and 6, 9, and 11 September (2013-057). The sense of the Committee was that the evidence clearly showed the presence of LeConte's Sparrows, but that the evidence was not sufficient to conclude that breeding had occurred on site. In particular, there was no direct evidence of nesting. The facts that (1) individuals of this species migrate in juvenile plumage and (2) the dates juveniles were observed, though on the early side, are not exceptionally early make possible that these observations involved only migrant birds.

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Field Notes:
The 2015 Fall Migration Season

BY DAVID B. JOHNSON

Illustration of Common Ground-Dove by Denis Kania.

Weather

Due to an El Nino year Illinois experienced a very dry spell in late summer and early fall and consistently temperatures were above normal. Peoria recorded a hot 98F on 4 September which was the hottest central Illinois temperature all year (Geelhart 2015). There were only four days of freezing temperatures through the end of November. The first freezing day in the state occurred on 24 Oct, other freezing days occurred 2-3 Nov and 20-21 Nov when the state recorded its second largest November snowfall from winter storm Bella – dumping 11.2 inches of snow at O'Hare International Airport – just shy of the record 12 inches recorded in 1885. Closeby 15 inches of snow fell in Buffalo Grove and 16.9 inches were recorded in Gurnee and the record 17.1 inches fell in Roscoe (Winnebago Co). 11 degrees F was the first sub-freezing day in the Chicago area all fall. However, within a week warmer temperatures returned and the snowmelt was complete. November ended on a warm note of 43 degrees F. Weather outside of Illinois during the period, particularly September and October, featured the slow moving major (Cat 4) east coast Hurricane Joquin which, most likely, deflected migratory White-rumped Sandpipers away from their normal east coast migration route with heretofore unheard of high count numbers being recorded throughout Illinois (and elsewhere), see species account.

Rarities

This season had its sprinkling of rarities – some exceedingly remarkable. Two to three MOTTLED DUCKS were found in southern Illinois. A female BARROW'S GOLDENEYE was detected along the Illinois River in East Peoria. Chicago had its first confirmed (by photograph) COMMON GROUND-DOVE and a specimen COMMON GROUND-DOVE was salvaged in Bloomington. WHOOPING CRANES were noted in at least seven counties. Remarkably early was the photographed 2nd year LONG-TAILED JAEGER at Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co) in July; two PARASITIC JAEGERS were noted in Sep. A BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (imm.) was detected at Montrose in mid-November. Two LITTLE GULLS were noted in central Illinois. The rarest gull was a SLATY-BACKED GULL photographed at *Rock Island* at the end of the period. An adult ROYAL TERN was photographed at Waukegan in mid-August. The WOOD STORK photographed in *Lake* in mid-October at Sun Lake FP was remarkable. A single NEOTROPIC CORMORANT was noted in mid-August at Emiquon. A WHITE IBIS was photographed at Carlyle Lake in mid-Sep and a WHITE-FACED IBIS was noted for at least a week in *Kane* in mid October. Two SWALLOW-TAILED KITES were observed on 23 Aug in central Illinois with one lingering into Sep in *Champaign*. Remarkable was the BURROWING OWL in *LaSalle* photographed in mid-Oct for two days. The pair of PRAIRIE FALCONS returned to their traditional location in *Coles* on 8 Nov. CAVE SWALLOWS have a habit of showing up in November with two being photographed at Illinois Beach SP in both the north and south units. A TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE and VARIED THRUSH were detected in November. Very rare was the third state record of BULLOCK'S ORIOLE at Oak Park (Cook Co) photographed in mid-Oct.

Waterfowl to Grebes

Greater White-fronted Geese (now seemingly ubiquitous) showed a strong migration at the end of the period with a maximum count of 2,200 being noted in *Fulton* plus being detected in 32 other counties. A maximum count of 750 Cackling Geese in *Ogle* was detected at the end of the period. Swans are trending upward with a concentration of 140 Mute Swans along the Illinois River in *Fulton* and a high count of 25 Trumpeter Swans at Emiquon at the end of the period. 6,200 Blue-winged Teal at Chautquaqua NWR was a high count in early September and 10,000 Northern Pintail there on 10 Oct was a high concentration. The 7,600 Canvasback at Spring Lake along the Mississippi River was in the backwaters in mid November. 8,050 Ruddy Ducks at Dixon WR was a noteworthy high count. Redheads continue to stage and/or winter along Lake Michigan with 1200 noted at Evanston on 29 Nov. All late arriving ducks: 200 Common Goldeneye had migrated into Carlyle Lake by 22 Nov; 500 Hooded Mergansers were at Emiquon by 28 Nov. Red-breasted Mergansers seemed to move in masse with 1,627 being the high count at Montrose at the end of the period. All three scoters and Long-tailed Ducks were noted this fall with a high count of 11 White-winged Scoters at North Point Marina on 14 Nov; 14 Surf Scoters at Gillson on 16 Oct and several Blacks were seen as early as 9 Oct. Long-tailed Ducks had arrived by mid-Nov at several locations. Wild Turkeys (59 counties) and Northern Bobwhites (27 counties) are being reported more often. In contrast Greater Prairie-Chickens were barely detected and in small numbers (18 birds in two counties). Migratory Red-necked Grebes

seem to be increasing with 4 counties reporting them; the earliest being on 18 Oct at Lake Shelbyville and two were noted on Lake Springfield. Only one Western Grebe was noted at Lake Shelbyville.

Pigeons to Terns

Two significant Common Ground-Doves were noted this season: Chicago's first substantiated record (by photograph) in Lincoln Park and a second specimen record for central Illinois at Bloomington. County detections of cuckoos were 3 to 1 in favor of Yellow-billed Cuckoo (60 counties) vs. Black-billed Cuckoo (20 counties). 8,855 Common Nighthawks migrating by a Chicago rooftop was a spectacular observation. A very late departing Ruby-thoated Hummingbird (banded and photographed) on 3 Dec in *White* was extraordinary. Two Yellow Rails were building strike casualties in Chicago, one in Sep; the other in Oct. 28,500 coot in Dixon Waterfowl Refuge was a massive concentration in late Oct. Staging in August 130 Black-necked Stilts were in *Randolph* and 115 were in *Monroe*. An avocet had returned to northeastern Illinois on 9 July and a maximum count of 26 was tallied in southern Illinois on 12 Oct. The first Piping Plover was noted 17-19 July in *Livingston*. Upland Sandpipers were detected in 15 counties with a late departure date of 7 Sep. A high count of 46 Hudsonian Godwits was tallied at Chautauqua NWR; one lingered in *Iroquois* until 14 Nov. The highest estimated count of a spectacular fall migration of White-rumped Sandpipers was 500 at Chautauqua NWR on 10 Oct; the latest departure was 26 Nov in *Kankakee*. A good movement of Dunlin (578) occurred along the western shore of Lake Michigan on 20 Oct. A maximum count of 62 Sanderlings was noted in Chicago on 7 Sep. A noteworthy total of 33 Buff-breasted Sandpipers were detected in *Kendall* on 4 August. The seven day mid July 2nd year Long-tailed Jaeger at Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co) was a remarkable find. There was but a lone report of Black-legged Kittiwake at Montrose on 13 Nov. Two Little Gulls were noted in central Illinois with an early immature on 16 Aug at Chautauqua NWR. 334 Franklin's Gulls at RendL on 24 Oct was a maximum count. The aforementioned – SLATY-BACKED GULL was photographed at Rock Island on 25 Nov. The Aug record of ROYAL TERN at Waukegan was a Lake County first.

Loons to Raptors

Always unusual were the two Pacific Loons recorded at opposite ends of the state. The highest count of sixty Common Loons was noted at Carlyle Lake in mid-Nov. The mid-Oct WOOD STORK in Lake County was a surprise and county first. The only NEOTROPIC CORMORANT was in central Illinois at, where else? Emiquon. Staging cormorants and pelicans number in the thousands at Carlyle Lake and the 1,200 American White Pelicans still at Carlyle Lake at the end of the period was a substantial number. Twelve American and eight Least Bitterns at the end of September at Emiquon was a significant high migratory count for both species hardly detected in fall. Snowy Egrets and Little Blue Herons were noted in good numbers in southern Illinois. Twenty Cattle Egrets was a noteworthy maximum count at Carlyle Lake in early Sep. A WHITE IBIS was noted in early Sep at Carlyle Lake and the only WHITE-FACED IBIS was noted in Kane County and stayed for a week-and-a-half in November. Both vultures were well detected with good numbers of Black Vutures in 13 counties being reported in southern Illinois. A high count of 23 Osprey was noted at FSHW in mid-Sep. Two SWALLOW-TAILED KITES were reported in central Illinois with the Champaign kite lingering from late Aug through 10 Sep – an almost unheard of two week plus observation period of an individual hawking dragonflies, katydids and other insects over cornfields; then perching and roosting in suburban yards! A peak count of 27 Northern Harriers was noted atop a Chicago high rise in mid-Nov. Bald Eagles are becoming almost as ubiquitous as Red-tailed Hawks with 72 counties recording eagles. The maximum count for migratory accipters went to the 216 Sharp-shinned Hawks tallied at FSHW in mid-Oct. The highest Broad-winged Hawk tally was of 156 at GVHW in mid-Sep. A BURROWING OWL in *LaSalle* certainly was noteworthy for a species – always rare – seemingly retracting evermore in migratory movements across our state. A Long-eared Owl barely made the migratory radar with a lone owl detected at Montrose at the end of the period. In contrast Short-eared Owls were detected in 11 counties with a high-count of ten in Peoria County. Northern Saw-whet Owls staged an impressive influx in mid-Oct at SBBO.

Kingfishers to Kinglets

Belted Kingfishers were reported in 75 counties. Red-headed Woodpeckers were observed in 75 counties as well with a high count of twenty-two in *Macoupin*. In general woodpeckers seemed to be dectected more often including Pileated Woodpeckers – possibly benefitting from the emerald ash borer infestation in our woodlands; they were recorded in 62 counties with a high count of eight at Dixon WF at the end of the period. The maximum count of 104 migratory Merlins was noted at IBHW in mid-Oct. A maximum of 27 Peregrines were noted at the end of Sep at GVHW. The traditional pair of wintering Prairie Falcons has migrated into *Coles* by 8 Nov. Interesting were the forty Monk Parakeets in DuPage in mid-Sep. Olive-sided Flycatchers were well detected in 23 counties. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was first noted in southern Illinois on 24 July. A very tardy Least Flycatcher was noted in *Sang* on 9 Dec. Good numbers of migrating Eastern Kingbirds were noted in late Aug. One Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was observed in *Scott* at the end of Aug. Northern Shrikes arrived on 17 Oct in *Kendall* and *Lake*. A tardy White-eyed Vireo was noted 14 Nov in *Sang*. A late departing Purple Martin was at Carlyle Lake 4 Oct and 120,000 Tree Swallows there in mid-Oct must have been mind-boggling; a 3 Dec record was the latest for *Sang*. A late departing Northern Rough-winged Swallow was noted at the end of the period. Two CAVE SWALLOWS were noted in northeasthern Illinois in Nov, the month they are expected to occur. Kinglets were well noted with maximum counts of 60 Golden-crowned at Burnham Pk, Chi and 120 Ruby-crowned at Carlyle Lake both in early to mid-Oct respectively.

Thrashers to Sparrows

A Townsend's Solitaire was noted in early Nov in *Cook*. A tardy Swainson's Thrush was salvaged by the CBCM in mid-Nov in Chicago. 132 Hermit Thrush was a high concentration along Chi lakefront at Grant Park. A late Wood Thrush was in *Kane* on 4 Nov. Nearly two thousand American Robins were noted in Calhoun Co in early Nov. A VARIED THRUSH was present in *Kane* for a week at the end of the period. A strong maximum flight of 3190 Cedar Waxwings was noted along the Chicago lakefront on 8 Sep. A tally of 225 American Pipits was noted a LShel on 6 Nov. 734 House Finch at IBSP-S was a maximum group in mid-Oct. The earliest Snow Bunting arrival was 24 Oct at NPM and 140 was the maximum flight count at FSHW in mid-Nov. An American Tree Sparrow had arrived at Montrose on 6 Oct. 400 plus Chipping Sparrows in Winnebago in mid-Oct was a significant staging group. A late departing Clay-colored Sparrow was noted in Chi on 24 Nov. A very early arriving LeConte's Sparrow was detected at the Museum Campus of Grant Park, Chicago on 24 Aug. 42 Fox Sparrows at MArb was a maximum tally on 23 Oct. The earliest Lincoln's Sparrow was detected 30 Aug in *Cook* and a migrant Swamp Sparrow was along Chicago's Lakefront on 27 Aug. Both White-throated and White-crowned numbers exceeded 200 at Grant Park, Chi on 10 October. The earliest Harris's Sparrow was in Chicago on 30 Sep and most reports came from northeastern Illinois in October. Dark-eyed Juncos arrived by 12 Sep at IBSP-S.

Chat, Blackbirds to Warblers

The latest departing Yellow-headed Blackbird was at Montrose in mid-Sep. Bobolinks were noted in 26 counties. An unusual Western Meadowlark was noted at IBHW in mid-Nov. Orchard Orioles were noted in 20 counties. A third state record of BULLOCK'S ORIOLE was photographed in Oak Park on 14 Oct. An early Rusty Blackbird was at Montrose on 12 Sep; a maximum count of 110 was noted in *Bureau* and reports were from 45 counties. Brewer's Blackbirds were noted in 19 counties. The earliest arriving Ovenbird was at Jarvis on 16 Aug. The earliest Northern Waterthrush was at Evanston on 2 Aug. A Golden-winged Warbler was first detected at Montrose on 15 Aug. 200 Tennesse Warblers and 120 Black-throated Green Warblers were maximum counts at Carlyle Lake on 3 Oct. An extremely late lingering Tennessee Warbler was noted in Lincoln Park, Chi on 5 Dec. A very tardy Magnolia Warbler was photographed at Millennium Pk, Chi on 25 Nov. The earliest Blackburnian Warbler was noted at Carlyle Lake in southern Illinois on 12 Aug. The latest Chestnut-sided Warbler was in *Richland* on 28 Oct. An early Yellow-rumped Warbler was noted on 7 Aug in *DuPage*. The earliest Palm Warbler was detected in *Jackson* on 22 Aug. A very late Wilson's Warbler was detected 4 Dec at Lake Springfield. The most ubiquitous warbler was Yellow-rumped Warbler noted in 70 counties followed by Tennessee Warbler and American Redstart both detected in 58 counties and a close third was Magnolia Warbler being detected in 56 counties. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were widespread in 58 counties. Sixteen Blue Grosbeaks at Bailey Wetlands in southern Illinois was a significant maximum count, and this species was widespread--detected in 40 counties.

Irruptive Species

Seven reports of Northern Goshawks were largely at hawkwatches with the earliest being detected on 10 Oct. Rough-legged Hawks were first detected in early Oct with strong numbers being noted at the end of the period at hawkwatches, however this species was only detected in 24 counties vs. 30 the prior fall (2014) (Johnson 2015). Snowy Owls migrated extremely early with earliest in *Will* and *LaSalle* on 20 Oct. This was the beginning of the third consecutive "echo-type" irruption. Northern Shrikes migrated in Mid-Oct with a high-count of 3 at IBHW on 26 Oct, and all sightings were confined to the northern tier of counties. Red-breasted Nuthatches had a similar down season as 2014 (Johnson 2015), being reported in 25 counties vs. 26 in 2014, with the first migrants being detected at the end of August and a high-count of eight at 3 northern Illinois locations. Purple Finches infuxed in good numbers with the first migrant being detected on 21 August at Montrose. Red Crossbills were noted in small numbers in six counties beginning in late October through the end of the period with some being detected in central Illinois in *Sang* and *Mason*. Excellent numbers of Common Redpolls pushed into northeastern Illinois in early November with a high-count of 85 at Chicago Botanic Garden on 18 Nov with the species making it to central Illinois in *Woodford* and *Livingston* by the end of the period. Record early migration dates were established for Pine Siskin on 3-5 and 8 Aug in *DuPage*. A spectacular flight of 3178 Pine Siskins passed by the IBHW on 2 October. By the end of October siskins were statewide with good numbers as noted by the sixty being reported at Carlyle Lake on 25 Oct.

Exotics

Nine European Goldfinches at Waukegan on 21 Oct was a significant count as the species is getting more detectible there and in southeast Wisconsin.

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The following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

AllertonPk = Allerton Park (Piatt Co)+
AllertonPk_ = Allerton Park BBS (Piatt/Moultrie Cos)
AlmondM = Almond Marsh Forest Preserve (Lake Co)
AMAX = Amax Coal Company property, Keensburg(Wabash Co)
AmnBot = American Bottoms (Monroe County)
AndaSl = Andalusia Slough Recreation Area (Rock Island Co)
ArcolaM = Arcola Marsh (Douglas Co)
Ark = Arklands Reclamation Area/Pyramid State Park (Perry & Randolph Cos)
AromaPark = Aroma Park (Kankakee Co)
Athens_ = Athens BBS (Menard Co)
Atkinson_ = Atkinson BBS (Henry Co)
AWS = Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Springfield (Sangamon Co)
BaileyWet = Bailey Wetland (Richland and Wayne Cos)
Baker'sL = Baker's Lake, Barrington (Cook Co)
BaldwinL = Baldwin Lake (Randolph/St. Clair Co)
BannerM = Banner Marsh (Fulton & Peoria Cos)
Bartonville_ = Bartonville BBS (Peoria Co)
BeallWds = Beall Woods State Park (Wabash Co)
Beaucoup_ = Beaucoup BBS (Washington/Clinton Cos)
BeaverdamL_ = Beaverdam Lake BBS (Pope Co)
Belknap_ = Belknap BBS (Johnson Co)
Bellrose = Bellrose Waterfowl Reserve (Pulaski Co)
BigBend = Big Bend State Fish & Wildlife Area (Whiteside Co)
Bloom = Bloomington (McLean Co)
BraidwoodL = Braidwood Lake (Will Co)
BRSF = Big River State Forest (Henderson Co)
BurnidgeFP = Burnidge Forest Preserve (Kane Co)
BurntPrairie_ = Burnt Prairie BBS (White Co)
BuseyWds = Busey Woods Park, Urbana (Champaign Co)
BusseWds = Busse Woods Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
CampPoint_ = Camp Point BBS (Adams Co)
C'dale = Carbondale (Jackson Co)
CapSauers = Cap Sauers Holdings Nature Preserve (Cook Co)
CarlL -B = Carlyle Lake (Bond Co)
CarlL-C = Carlyle Lake (Clinton Co)
CarlL-F = Carlyle Lake (Fayette Co)
CBG = Chicago Botanic Garden (Cook Co)
Champaign = Champaign (Champaign Co)
Channahon = Channahon Widewaters, Des Plaines River (Will Co)
Chau = Lake Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (Mason Co)
Chi = Chicago--excl. Jackson Park, Lincoln & Grant Parks & Lake Calumet (Cook Co)
ChinqBl = Chinquapin Bluffs Nature Preserve (Woodford Co)
CIPSL = Cental Illinois Public Service Cooling Lake (Jasper Co)
ClearL = Clear Lake (Mason Co)
ClintonL = Clinton Lake (DeWitt Co)
ColesCo Apt = Coles County Airport (Mattoon, Coles Co)
COLSP = Chain-O-Lakes State Park (Lake Co)
Columbia_ = Columbia BBS (Monroe/St. Clair Cos)
Compton_ = Compton BBS (Lee/Ogle Cos)
ConnerL = Conner Lake (Monroe Co)
CONWR = Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (Williamson Co)
COR = Chain-of-Rocks (Madison Co)
CRSNA = Cache River State Natural Area (Johnson Co)
CrystalLk = Crystal Lake Park, Urbana (Champaign Co)
CWRP = Calumet Water Reclamation Plant (Cook Co)
DeerGrove = Deer Grove Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
DixonWR = Dixon Waterfowl Refuge (HennepinL-Hopper, Putnam Co)
DogtoothI = Dogtooth Island (Alexander Co)
DPCA = Des Plaines Conservation Area (Will Co)
Dudleyville_ = Dudleyville BBS (Bond Co)
DYNL = Dick Young/Nelson Lake Forest Preserve (Kane Co)
DWR = Dixon Waterfowl Refuge (Putnam Co) [formerly called Hennepin-Hopper Lake Restoration Area [HennepinL]]
ECapeGir = East Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co)
EForkL = East Fork Lake, Olney (Richland Co)
Elsens Hill = Elsens Hill, West DuPage Forest Preserve (DuPage Co)
Emiquon = The Nature Conservancy Emiquon Preserve (Fulton Co)
EPSP = El Paso Sewage Plant (Woodford Co)
ESTL = East St. Louis (St Clair Co)
EwingP = Ewing Park, Bloomington (McLean Co)
Fairbury_ = Fairbury BBS (Livingston/Ford Cos)
Fermi = Fermilab (Du Page Co)
FerneClyffe = Ferne Clyffe State Park (Johnson Co)
FGP = Forest Glen Preserve (Vermilion Co)
Flora_ = Flora BBS (Clay Co)
FoleySP = Foley Sand Prairie Nature Preserve (Lee Co)
Forestry = University of Illinois Forestry plantation, Urbana (Champaign Co)
FountainGrn = Fountain Green Township (Hancock Co)
FtMassac = Fort Massac State Park (Massac Co)
Funk'sGrove = Funk's Grove Preserve lands (McLean Co)
Gillson = Gillson Park, Wilmette (Cook Co)
GlacialPk = Glacial Park Conservation Area (McHenry Co)
GLNTC = Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)
GLPSNA = Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (Grundy Co)
GreeneVal = Greene Valley Forest Preserve (DuPage Co)
GrantPk = Grant Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
GreenR = Green River State Wildlife Area (Lee Co)
GuzyPra = Margaret Guzy Pothole Wetlands Nature Preserve (Shelby Co)
Harristown_ = Harristown BBS (Macon/Logan Cos)
HennepinL = Dixon Waterfowl Refuge (Putnam Co)
HeronCP = Heron County Park (Vermilion Co)
HeronPond = Heron Pond Nature Preserve, Cache River State Natural Area (Johnson Co)
HerrickL = Herrick Lake Forest Preserve (DuPage Co)
HGC = Harborside International Golf Course, @ LCal (Cook Co)
HL = Horseshoe Lake State Park (Madison Co)
HLCA = Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area (Alexander Co)
HomerL = Homer Lake Forest Preserve (Champaign Co)
IBSP = Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
ICCA = Iroquois County Conservation Area (Iroquois Co)
JakeWolf FH = Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery (Mason Co)
Jamestown_ = Jamestown BBS (Clinton/Madison Cos)
Jarvis = Bill Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Lincoln Pk, Chicago (Cook Co)
JEPC = Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish & Wildlife Area (Cass Co)
JP = Jackson Park and vicinity, Chicago (Cook Co)
JPPSP = James "Pate" Phillip (Tri-County) State Park (Cook, DuPage, Kane Cos)
JubileeC = Jubilee College State Park (Peoria Co)
JWJWFP = James W. Jardine Water Filtration Plant (Cook Co)
Kankakee = Kankakee (Kankakee Co)
KankakeePks = LeVasseur Park/Perry Farm Park (Kankakee Co)
KArb = Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co)
KCP = Kennekuk Cove County Park (Vermilion Co)
Kell_ = Kell BBS (Marion Co)
KinkaidL = Kinkaid Lake (Jackson Co)

Abbreviations for place names, *continued*

Kinnikinnick = Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area (Boone Co)
Klehm Arb = Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co)
KLMSNA = Kidd Lake Marsh State Natural Area (Monroe Co)
KRSP = Kankakee River State Park (Kankakee Co)
KSP = Kickapoo State Park (Vermilion Co)
Lakewd = Lakewood Forest Preserve (Lake Co)
LaSalleL = LaSalle Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area (LaSalle Co)
LBloom = Lake Bloomington (McLean Co)
LCal = Lake Calumet (Cook Co)
LCF = Lake County Fairgrounds (Lake Co)
LDec = Lake Decatur (Macon Co)
LDDP = Lake Decatur dredge ponds (Macon Co)
LincPk = Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
LMurphy SP = Lake Murphysboro State Park (Jackson Co)
LSummerset_ = Lake Summerset BBS (Stephenson Co)
LostMound = Lost Mound Unit, Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge (Jo Daviess Co)
LOW = Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve (Champaign Co)
LowdMil = Lowden-Miller State Forest (Ogle Co)
LRen = Lake Renwick (Will Co)
LRSNC = Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Palos (Cook Co)
LShel = Lake Shelbyville (Moultrie Co)
LSpfld = Lake Springfield (Sangamon Co)
LSummerset_ = Lake Summerset BBS (Stephenson Co)
LTFP = Loud Thunder Forest Preserve (Rock Island Co)
LtlBlkSl = Little Black Slough State Natural Area (Johnson Co)
LVerm = Lake Vermilion, Danville (Vermilion Co)
L&D 13 = Lock & Dam 13, Mississippi River (Whiteside Co)
LUREC = Loyola University s Retreat and Ecology Campus (McHenry Co)
MArb = Morton Arboretum (DuPage Co)
Martinsville_ = Martinsville BBS (Clark/Crawford Cos)
Maz/Braid = Mazonia/Braidwood State Fish & Wildlife Area (Grundy/Will/Kankakee Cos)
MBC = Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co)
McCunePra = McCune Sand Prairie Nature Preserve (Bureau Co)
McGinnis = McGinnis Slough (sw. Cook Co)
MeadbrkPk = Meadowbrook Park, Urbana (Champaign Co)
MermetL = Mermet Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area (Massac Co)
Midewin = Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (Will Co)
MidFork = Middle Fork River Forest Preserve (Champaign Co)
Mid Meadows = Midlothian Meadows Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
MidSav = Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve (Lake Co)
Milford_ = Milford BBS (Iroquois/Vermilion Cos)
Miller-And = Miller-Anderson Woods Nature Preserve (Bureau Co)
Mill Creek_ = Mill Creek BBS (Ogle/Carroll Co)
MlrMdw = Miller Meadow, Midlothian Meadows Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
MissPalis = Mississippi Palisades State Park (Carroll Co)
MissR = Mississippi River (various counties)
MomenceSod = H & E Sod Farm, Momence (Kankakee Co)
MomenceWet = Momence Wetlands (Kankakee Co)
Monticello_ = Monticello BBS (Piatt/Moultrie Cos)
Montrose = Montrose Harbor, Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
MoraineHills = Moraine Hills State Park (McHenry Co)
MRB = Mississippi River Blufflands (Monroe Co)
MSF&WA = Middle Fork State Fish & Wildlife Area (Vermilion Co)
Mskoda = Mskoda Sands Preserve, St. Anne Township (Kankakee Co)
Nachusa = Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co)
NewtonL = Newton Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area (Jasper Co)
NoP = North Pond, Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
NortherlyI = Northerly Island, Burnham Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
NPM = North Point Marina, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co)
NygrenWet = Nygren Wetlands Preserve (Winnebago Co)
OakBot = Oakwood Bottoms, Shawnee National Forest (Jackson Co)
O'Fallon WTP = O'Fallon Wastewater Treatment Plant (St. Clair Co)
Olney_ = Olney BBS (Richland/Wayne Cos)
Palos = Palos area (sw. Cook Co)
PaulDouglas = Paul Douglas Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
Peabody = Peabody River King State Fish & Wildlife Area (St. Clair Co)
PeacockM = marsh @ Peacock Engineering Company, Bolingbrook (Will Co)
Pecatonica = Pecatonica River area (Winnebago Co)
Pembroke = Pembroke Township (Kankakee Co)
PereMar = Pere Marquette State Park (Jersey Co)
PineHills = Pine Hills/LaRue Ecological Area (Union Co)
PLNWR = Port Louisa NWR, Keithsburg Division of Mark Twain NWR Complex (Mercer Co)
PlumCrk = Plum Creek Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
Pomona = Pomona area (Jackson Co)
Pontiac_ = Pontiac BBS (Livingston Co)
Pratt'sWW = Pratt's Wayne Woods Forest Preserve (DuPage Co)
PRKWA = Peabody River King Wildlife Area (St. Clair Co)
PrRdg-J = Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co)
PrRdg-M = Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Marion Co)
Pulaski_ = Pulaski BBS (Pulaski/Alexander Cos)
QC = Quad Cities and vicinity (Rock Island Co)
QuincyBay = Quincy Bay State Fish & Wildlife Area (Adams Co)
Rckfd = Rockford (Winnebago Co)
RedwingSl = Redwing Slough State Natural Area (Lake Co)
RendL = Rend Lake (Jefferson Co)
RiverBend = River Bend Forest Preserve (Champaign Co)
RockCut = Rock Cut State Park (Winnebago Co)
RollinsSav = Rollins Savanna Forest Preserve (Lake Co)
RRR = Rock Run Rookery Forest Preserve (Will Co)
RSP = Riverside Park (Sangamon Co)
Ryerson = Ryerson Conservation Area (Lake Co)
SagSl = Saganashkee Slough (Cook Co)
St. Morgan_ = St. Morgan BBS (Madison Co)
SaltCrk = Salt Creek Woods Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
Sang = Sangamon Co
Sangchris = Sangchris Lake (Sangamon/Christian Cos)
SantaFe = Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co)
SCH = Spring Creek Headwaters Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
SFPK = Sauer Family Prairie Kame Forest Preserve (Kane Co)
ShabbonaL = Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area (DeKalb Co)
Sheffield_ = Sheffield BBS (Bureau Co)
Sherburnville_ = Sherburnville BBS (Kankakee, Will & Cook Cos)
Sherrard_ = Sherrard BBS (Mercer/Warren Cos)
SiloamSpr = Siloam Springs State Park (Adams Co)
SNF = Shawnee National Forest (various counties)
SongbirdSl = Songbird Slough Forest Preserve (DuPage Co)
SouthFm = University of Illinois's South Farms (Champaign Co)
Spfld = Springfield (Sangamon Co)
SpgBlf = Spring Bluff Forest Preserve (Lake Co)
Springbrk = Springbrook Prairie FP (DuPage Co)
SpringCrk = Spring Creek Headwaters Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
SpringL = Spring Lake (Tazewell Co)
SRSF = Sand Ridge State Forest (Mason Co)
StarvedRock = Starved Rock State Park (LaSalle Co)
Stillwell_ = Stillwell BBS (Hancock Co)
Streator_ = Streator BBS (Livingston Co)

Abbreviations for place names, *continued*

SugarR	= Sugar River Alder Forest Preserve (Winnebago Co)
SwallowCliff	= Swallow Cliff Woods Forest Preserve (Palos, Cook Co)
TinleyCrk	= Tinley Creek Wetlands (s. Cook Co)
TOT	= Trail of Tears SF (Union Co)
Troy Grove_	= Troy Grove BBS (LaSalle/Bureau Cos)
TwoRivers	= Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge (Calhoun Co)
UCCA	= Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)
UMRNWR	= Upper Mississippi River NWR (Carroll Co)
Union_	= Union BBS (McHenry Co)
Urbana	= Urbana (Champaign Co)
VoloBog	= Volo Bog State Natural Area (Lake Co)
WaterfallGlen	= Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve (Du Page Co)
Wauk	= Waukegan Beach & Harbor/lakefront (Lake Co)
Wayne_	= Wayne BBS (DuPage/Will Cos)
Waynesville_	= Waynesville BBS (McLean Co)
WCCA	= Washington County Conservation Area (Washington Co)
WhalonL	= Whalon Lake Forest Preserve (Will Co)
WhispWil	= Whispering Willows Park, Bourbonnais (Kankakee Co)
Williamsfield	= Williamsfield BBS (Knox/Fulton Cos)
WinthropH	= Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co)
Yorkville_	= Yorkville BBS (Kane Co)
179th /Cen	= 179th & Central Rds Forest Preserve, Country Club Hills (Cook Co)

The following abbreviations for place names have been used throughout this report:

ad(s)	= adult(s)
alt	= alternate plumage (breeding)
cop	= copulating
et al.	= and other
♀	= female(s)
imm	= immature
incl	= including
juv(s)	= juvenile(s)
lg	= large
♂	= male(s)
m.ob.	= many observers
*	= documented record
**	= specimen record
<	= Late fall departure
>	= Early spring arrival
ph	= photo(s)
plum	= plumage
pr(s)	= pair(s)
prop	= property
pts	= points
resp	= respectively
subad(s)	= subadult(s)
unk	= unknown age/sex
vid	= video
w/	= with
yg	= young
1st	= first winter plumage
2nd	= second winter plumage
3rd	= third winter plumage
Apt	= Airport
Arb	= Arboretum
B	= Beach
BBS	= USGS Breeding Bird Survey (Route)
Bldg	= Building
CA	= Conservation Area
CBC	= Audubon Christmas Bird Count
Cem	= Cemetery
Co(s)	= County(ies)
CP	= County Park
Crk	= Creek
EA	= Ecological Area
FP	= Forest Preserve
FS	= Field Station
GC	= Golf Course
H	= Harbor
HA	= Habitat Area
I	= Island
IL	= Illinois
L	= Lake
L&D	= Lock & Dam
M	= Marsh
Mem	= Memorial
MOON	= Monitoring of Owls & Nightjars Project
MM	= Mile Marker
MWRP	= Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Plant
NA	= Natural Area
NC	= Nature Center
NHL	= National Historic Landmark
No.	= North
NP	= Nature Preserve
NWR	= National Wildlife Refuge
OSL	= Open Space Lands
Pk	= Park
Pra	= Prairie
Pr	= Preserve
R	= River
Rd	= Road
SF	= State Forest
Sl	= Slough
SFWA	= State Fish & Wildlife/ Waterfowl Area
SNA	= State Natural Area
So.	= South
SP	= State Park
SRA	= State Recreation Area
Twp	= Township
USF&WS	= United States Fish & Waterfowl/Wildlife Service
Univ	= University
WTP	= Wastewater Treatment Plant(Ponds)
WMA	= Wildlife Management Area
Wds	= Woods
WS	= Wildlife Sanctuary
EA	= Earliest Arrival
LD	= Latest Departure(s)
MC	= Maximum Count(s)

This summary of the fall or autumnal season would not be possible without the submission of sightings, field notes, and commentary by observers throughout the state. Those who supplied this information are listed below. The observers for individual records in the report are credited by including their initials immediately following mention of the record. The order of the list is alphabetic in relation to the observers' last name. In some cases, the cited observer is an organization or institution. Abbreviations for these are listed separately.

List of Individual Observers:

Amar A. Ayyash, Alan B. Anderson, Andrew S. Aldrich (ASA), Bob Andrini, Dan Anzia (DAa), David K. Antieau, Isoo O'Brien (IOB), Jeff Aufmann(JAn), Jill S. Anderson, Paula Aschim, Shanin Abreu (SAu), Steve Aram (SAm), Ben Burrus, Ed Baumgarten (EBa), Ethan Brown, H David Bohlen, John Bates (JBs), J. K. Bland, Jeff Bryant(JBt), John Besser (JBr), Kevin Burns(KBu), Lawrence G. Balch, Leon Book (LBk), Maury H. Brucker, Michael J. Baum, Nick Barber (NBr), Oliver Burrus, Richard A. Biss, Rita Barcus(RBs), Ron Bradley(RBy), Sam B. Buckhardt, Steven D. Bailey, Shawn Billerman (SBn), Terry Bronson(TBn), Tim Balassie, Vic O.Berardi, Alex Cuda, Doug Crane (DCe), Evan Carlson, Gail Chastain, Jeff Corcoran(JCn), Jake Cvetas (JCs), Jeff D. Chapman, Joan Campbell, John Cebula (JCa), Joshua Cullum (JCm), Leslie Cummings, Linda Cames (LCa), Lori Cohen(LCn), Maggie Crane (MCe), Matt M. Cvetas, Nat Carmichael (NCl), Paul Clifford (PCd), Paul R. Clyne, Scott A. Cohrs, Therese Catanach, Bonnie Duman, Brian Dooley(BDy), Carl & Pen Daubach (C & PDh), Cathy Digges(CDs), Colin Dobson(CDn), Denise Doctor, Donald R Dann, Eric Delbecq, Henry Deese (HDe), Henry Detwiler(HDr), Jon J. Duerr, Matthew Daw(MDw), Michelle C. Devlin, P & D Devlin (P & NDn), Patricia A. Durkin, Phil Doncheck, (PDk), Rich

Bay-breasted Warbler.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County.
27 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Golden-winged Warbler.
Eldon Hazlet State Park.
Clinton County.
12 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Blackburnian Warbler.
Carlyle Lake.
Fayette County.
29 August 2015.
Photo by kan Kassebaum.

Fall Warblers

Blue-winged Warbler.
Eldon Hazlet State Park.
Clinton County.
12 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Black-and-white Warbler.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County. 12 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Philadelphia Vireo.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County.
12 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Sedge Wren in blazing star.
Goose Lake Prairie State
Natural Area. Grundy County.
8 August 2015.
Photo by Don Blecha.

Fall Songbirds

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County.
27 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County. 25 October 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Ovenbird.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County. 28 September 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

J. DeCoster (RJD), Robert Dolgan (RDn), Roger Digges(RDs), Steve Doctor, Suzy Deese (SDe), Conner England, Emma England (EEd), Ethan Ellis, Carolyn & Chuck Fields (C & CF), Jim Forde (JFe), Joe Eades (JEs), John Elliot (JEt), Josh I. Engel, Robert N. Erickson, Bob Foehring, Carolyn & Chuck Fields, Debra Ferguson, Ellen Fonoroff (EFf), Pete Fenner, Matt E. Fraker, Michal Furmanek, Karen D. Fisher, Robert E. Fisher, Sue D. Friscia, Tyler D. Funk, Aaron Gyllenhaal, Allen Gathman (AGn), Andrew Gilbert (AGt), Carl Giometti (CGi), Chris Gutmann (CGn), Dave Gruver, Eric D. Gyllenhaal, Glen Gabanski, Joe Gardner(JGa), Joe Gasick (JGk), Joel R. Greenberg(JRG), Jon G (JnG), Judy Groskind (JGd), Julian Gottfried (JGo), Mary Gustafson,Nathan Goldberg, Reed Gerdes, Scott Gutzwiller, Tim Garvey, Urs W.Geiser, Beverly Hallberg (BHg), C. Leroy Harrison, Caleb Hawley(CHy), Don Hartzler (DHr), Doug Hommert (DHt), Dustin Holschuh(DHh), Frank R. Holmes, Gary Hantsbarger, Jeff Hardt (JHt), John Hart(JHa), Josh Honn(JHn), Jed B. Hertz, Kyle Hawley, N Huber (NHr), Roger Hayes (RHs), Robert D. Hughes, Steve J. Huggins, Stephen Hager (SHr), Susan Holton (SHn), Ted Hartzler, Tyler Hedlund (THd), Wayne Hochstetler, Matt Igleski(MIi), Mike Ingram, Stacy Iwanicki, Adam Johnson, Brad Jacobs, David B. Johnson, Eric Julson, R. David Johnson, Rhetta L. Jack, Ryan Jones, Scott Johnson, Caine Kelso(CKo), Craig Kruse (CKe), Dan M. Kassebaum, Davida Kalina (DKl), Jim Kriss, Kenn Kaufmann (KKn), Lawrence J. Krutulis, Olivia Kruse, Phil King, Sandra Kroll(SKl), Scott Kuiper, Taka Kawakami, Vernon M. Kleen, Brendan Lake, Corey Lange (CLe), Dallas Levey (DLy), Don Lowe (DLe), Eric Lundquist, Greg S. Lambeth, Josiah Lavender(JLa), Janet Lyons (JLs), Jim Lukancic(JLc), John P. Leonard, John C. Longhenry, Joseph W. Lill, Julie Long (JLg), Karen Lundell (KLl), Karen M. Lund, Mark Luscombe(MLe), Nolan Lameka, Pat Lueders, Paul Lehman(PLn), Peter Lowther (PLr), Scott Latimer (SLr), Suzi Lyttle(SLe), Tom B. Lally (TBL), Wendi Lindsay, Walter Lutz (WLz), Alan Magerkurth (AMh), Annette McClellan (AMC), Bob Morgan, Brent Mann (BMnn), Benjamin & Carrie Murphy (BMy & CMy), Christopher & Lisa Maier (CMr & LMr), Charlene M. Malone, Don Mullison(DMn), Eric Myers, Fran R. Morel, Frank Murphy(FMy), Greg Martinelli, Holly Musselman, Jim P. Malone, Jim Mordacq(JMq), Keith A. McMullen (KAM), Kathy Morales(KMs), Leo Miller, Luis G. Munoz, Marilyn Moxon, Marion Miller (MMr), Margaret Mechtenberg (MMg), Michael McNamee(MMe), Michael Morin (MMo), Mike A. Madsen, Pete A. Moxon, Richard Miller, Rod Mitchell (RMl), Steven Mickletz(SMz), Tony Moline (TMe), T. Murray (TMy), Travis A.Mahan, Vince Moxon, Walter J Marcisz, William McClellan(WMC), Jason Newton(JNn), Jill N.Niland, Joan I. Norek, Joel Neylon(JNe), Gabe Nardie(GNa), Greg E. Neise, Marcia Nye, Cindy Owsley, Amanda Parrish(APh), Anne Parmley, Eric Plage, Elizabeth Proctor (EPr), Glen Perricone, Janet Pellegrini(JPi), Joseph Phipps, Kelli Parke, Linda Padera, Marvin Piwoni, Oliver Pechenik, Rosemary Paul (RPl), Shawn Pfautsch(SPh), Wendy Paulson, Ari Rice, Bernard Ross, Linda B. Radtke, Lisa Rest, Mark Ross (MRs), Frederick Ruckersfeldt, Gary Ratcliff, Jorge Ramirez (JRz), Pat Reyburn, Patrick Ricketson(PRi), Phil J. Reyburn, Katie Riggs (KRs), Kevin B. Richmond, Kimberly Rohling(KRg), Mark Robbins, Nancy Redman, Rhonda Rothrock, Tony Rothering, William C. Rowe, W. Douglas Robinson, Adam W. Sell, Alan F. Stokie, Anna Szal (ASz), Andy O. Stewart, Andrew P. Sigler, Andrew Steinmann (ASn), Anna Sojourner (ASr), Anne Straight(ASt), Ardea Thurston-Shaine (ATS), Beau J. Schaefer, Brent Schindewolf (BSf), Brian Storvik(BSk), Carla Schmakel (CSl), Chris Sedivy (SCy), Christopher Stapleton(CSn), Courtney Solum (CSm), Darrell J. Shambaugh, Darrell Smith (DSm), David & Sebastian Starrett (D & SSt), David Sidle (DSe), Debra Schrishuhn (DSn), Dennis Streicher (DSr), Drew Sweet(DSw), Douglas F. Stotz, Eric E Secker, Janice Sweet (JSw), Gary Soper, Jeff A.Smith, Jeffery R. Sanders, Jeffrey R. R. Skrentny, Joyce Schreiber(JSr), Kevin Sheely (KSy), Leonard Stanley (LSy), Mark S. Seiffert, Mark Swanson (MSw), Matthew Schmidt(MSc), Matthew Schumm (MSm), Melinda Stephenson (MSn), Michael Stuart(MSt), Nicholas Sly (NSy), Paul W. Sweet, Randy Schietzelt (RSt), Randy L.Shonkwiler, Rebecca Steinmann (RSn), Richard Sayles, (RSs), Robert E. Shelby, Robert Spahn(RSp), Sandra Spence(SSe), Susan Szeszol (SSz), Tori Steely, Vicky Sroczynski, Wesley Sadler (WSr), Wesley S. Serafin, Aerin Tedesco, Craig A.Taylor, David Taliaferro, Greg Tito(GTo), Gordon Tucker, Jim Tudor, Mike Trahan, Nancy Tikalsky, Vicky Tucker, Deanna Uphoff, Jenny Vogt (JVt), Jude Vickery, Levi Vickery, Adam Woodis, (BWs), Casey Weissburg(CWg), Christine L. Williamson, Daniel T. Williams, Dan Wylie (DWe), Dave Weth (DWh), David Webb(DWb), David E. Willard, Emily Walker (EWr), Eric W. Walters, Geoff A. Williamson, Justin Wrinn (JWn), Kyle Wiktor, Matthew J.Winks, Matt Wistrand (MWd), Mike Ward (MWrd), Nick Wells, Phil W. Willink, Sylvia Walker (SWr), Ted Wolff (TWf), Tim Wallace(TWe), Tony Ward, William Wood Charles Young, Joseph Young, D. Zickuhr, Jay Zimmerman(JZn), Jerry Zamirowski, Steve Zehner(SZr), Susan Zelek.

Organizations and Institutions:

CAS	Chicago Audubon Society (field trips)
CBCM	Chicago Bird Collision Monitors (data largely involving window-strikes at high rises in downtown Chicago)
COS	Chicago Ornithological Society (field trips)
DBC	DuPage Birding Club (field trips)
ENSBC	Evanston-North Shore Bird Club (field trips)
FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History
FSHW	Fort Sherican Hawk Watch (Fort Sheridan LCFP, Lake Forest, compiled by Michal Furmanek)
GVHW	Greene Valley Hawk Watch (data from Greene Valley FP, compiled by Bob Fisher)
IAS	Illinois Audubon Society (field trips)
IBHW	Illinois Beach Hawk Watch (data from IBSP, North Unit, compiled by Vic Berardi)
IORC	Illinois Ornithological Records Committee
IOS	Illinois Ornithological Society (field trips)
KCA	Kane County Audubon (field trips)`
LLCC	Lincoln Land Community College (Sangamon Co)
NPBW	North Pond Bird Walk (weekly surveys at North Pond in Linc.P, led and compiled by Geoffrey A. Williamson)
SBBO	Sand Bluff Bird Observatory (Winnebago Co)
SRAS	Starved Rock Audubon Society (field trips)
WGNSS	Webster Grove Nature Study Society (field trips)

Headings for species requiring IORC (Illinois Ornithological Records Committee) review in parts of Illinois or in some plumages or seasons are underlined, while those for species requiring review of all records are CAPITALIZED AND UNDERLINED. Records pending IORC review are enclosed in square brackets []. The IORC review list can be viewed at the IOS/IORC website, http://www.illinoisbirds.org/iorc.html#review_list

Some records printed (or not printed) here may still be under IORC review; when completed, they will appear in the published IORC report. As standard policy, all observers, regardless of experience, must fully document all unusual observations. Documentation forms are available at http://www.illinoisbirds.org/public_html/iorc.html. Completed documentation forms of "listed" species should be submitted to the IORC Secretary within one week of the observation.

The 2015 Fall Migration Field Notes

Snow Goose
EA: 12 Sep, IBHW(2). **MC**: 3107, Double T SF & WA (Fulton Co), 28 Nov (MHB); 3000, CarlL-C, 29 Nov (DMK). Reported in 35 counties.

Ross's Goose
EA: 2-12 Oct *Kane* (JV, mob); 12 Nov, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 16, Chau, 30 Nov (AGt). **Others:** 9th St & Kenosha Rd (Lake Co), 27 Nov (AOS); *Will* 13 Nov (JnG); *Ogle* 29 Nov (DTW). Reported in 9 counties.

Greater White-fronted Goose
EA: 29 Sep, Chau (7) (AGt); 1-2 Oct, Whispering Willows Pk (4) (Kankakee Co) (JBH); 12 Oct, LSpfld(3) (HDB); 12 Oct, CarlL-C(18) (DMK). **MC**: 2200, Double T SF & WA (Fulton Co), 28 Nov (MHB); 1000, Chau, 28-30 Nov (CDn, AGt). Reported in 33 counties.

Cackling Goose
EA: 23 Sep Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RAB); 30 Sep, *Sang* (MMo). **MC**: 750, *Ogle* 29 Nov (DTW); 205, Dixon WR 29 Nov (DFS); 200, NIU west campus (DeKalb Co), 30 Oct- 13 Nov (NBr). Reported in 28 counties.

Canada Goose
MC: 6500 GVHW, 23 Nov. Reported in 90 counties.

Mute Swan
MC: 140, BannerM (Fulton Co), 24 Nov (AGt). Reported in 30 counties.

Trumpeter Swan
EA: 22 Nov LSpfld (7) (HDB, CDn). **MC**: 25, Emiquon, 28 Nov (CDn, TW); 18, *Clay*, W of Louisville, 23 Nov (CLH); 16, CarlL-C, 29 Nov (DMK); 14, Boogerville (Wayne Co), 29 Nov (CLH); 10, Wayne, 26 Nov (RES); 7, Dixon WR, 4 Nov AGt). Reported in 22 counties.

Tundra Swan
EA: 26 Oct, Moraine Hills SP--McHenry Dam(2) & GlacialPk CA (3) (McHenry Co) (m.obs.); 7 Nov(7), Wauk (AWS); 13 Nov (20), IBHW (PWS). **MC**: 300, *Carroll*, 27 Nov (TMe); 203, IBHW, 20 Nov (PWS, m.obs.); 86, Chau, 30 Nov (AGt). **Others**: Gillson(5), 28 Nov (RDH, AFS, JIN, FRM, m.ob.) Reported in 11 counties.

Wood Duck
MC: 550, Dixon WR, 7 Sep (DFS); 500, Emiquon, 21 Aug (DBJ). Reported in 76 counties.

Blue-winged Teal
MC: 6200, Chau, 12 Sep (KAM); 3500, Emiquon, 28 Aug (CDn); 1200, CarlL-C, 18 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 24-30 Nov, Lippold Pk (Kane Co) (BA); 14 Nov, LSpfld (HDB); 15 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK). Reported in 53 counties.

Northern Shoveler
EA: 7 Aug, Dixon WR(2) (DFS); 7 Aug, TwoRivers(2) (BSf, CSm); 9 Aug. LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 7500, Chau, 28 Nov (CDn); 2130, Dixon WR, 12 Oct (DFS); 1000, Emiquon, 10 Oct (CDn); 1000, Two Rivers, 11 Nov (BSf, CSm); 800, CarlL-C, 14 Nov (DMK). Reported in 54 counties.

Gadwall
EA:. 21 Aug, Embarrass Slough(4), L Charleston (Coles Co) (TDF). **MC**: 5000, CONWR, 16 Nov (JGd); 2500, Emiquon, 20 Nov (CDn); 2000, BigL (Brown Co) (CDn); 2000, CarlL-C, 14 Nov (DMK). Reported in 50 counties.

American Wigeon
EA: 20 Aug, Fermi (DBC). **MC**: 890, Dixon WF, 26 Oct (DFS); 400, Chau, 14 Nov (CDn, TW). Reported in 36 counties.

Mallard
MC: 12,000, CarlL-C, 22 Nov (DMK); 10,000, Chau, 28 Nov (CDn). Reported in 81 counties.

American Black Duck
EA: 28 Sep, *Lake* (RAB); 11 Oct, LSpfld(2) (HDB); 31 Oct, CarlL-C(2) (DMK). **MC**: 15, McGinnis, 13 Nov (KKn); 12, Chau, 14 Nov (CDn, TW). Reported in 34 counties.

MOTTLED DUCK
CarlL-C, 4 Oct-16 Nov (DMK:ph, KAM, MSS, m.obs.); BaileyWet, 26 Oct, two there 6-8 Nov (CLH:ph).

Northern Pintail
EA: 2 Aug, HL (FRH); 10 Aug, Emiquon (2) (CLe); 17 Aug, Peacock M(2) (JnG); 20 Aug, Sangchris (3) (HDB); 29 Aug, CarlL-C(2) (DMK). **MC**: 10,000 Chau, 10 Oct (CDn); 4000, Emiquon, 10 Oct (CDn); 1500, Dixon WR, 12 Oct (DFS); 1340, Douglas L (Woodford Co), 8 Nov (MJW); 1200, CarlL-C, 8 Nov (DMK). Reported in 46 counties.

Green-winged Teal
EA: 3 Aug, Emiquon(5) (AG); 11 Aug, *Kane* (PAM); 13 Aug. Sante Fe Bottoms (4) (Clinton Co) (RHs); 20 Aug, Sangchris (4) (HDB). **MC**: 5000, Chau, 10 Oct & 20 Nov (CDn); 4000, Big L (Brown Co) (CDn). Reported in 55 counties.

Canvasback
EA: 21 Sep, Dixon WR (DFS); 4 Oct, RollinSav (BJS); 24 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK); 27 Oct, LSpfld (14) (HDB). **MC**: 7600, SpringL (Carroll Co), 14 Nov (DBJ); 2900, HennepinL, 29 Nov (DFS); 1330, CONWR, 30 Nov (DMn, JGd). Reported in 24 counties.

Redhead
EA: 12 Oct, LSpfld(3) (HDB); 17 Oct, CarlL-C(30) (DMK). **MC**: 1200, Evanston (Cook Co) 29 Nov (MMC); 300, Emiquon, 20 Nov (CDn). Reported in 38 counties.

Ring-necked Duck
EA: 27 Sep, Dixon WR(5) (TH); 17 Oct, CarlL-C(20) (DMK). **MC**: 1710, HennepinL, 9 Nov (DFS); 1000, CONWR, 16 Nov (JGd); 400, *Hancock*, 14 Nov (CO). Most arrivals in early October. Reported in 50 counties.

Greater Scaup
EA: 7 Nov, LSpfld (HDB); 11 Nov, CarlL-C(2) (DMK). **MC**: 300, Evanston (Cook Co), 26 Nov (FRM). Reported in 8 counties.

Lesser Scaup
EA: 18 Sep, CarlL-C(22) (RHs), 19 Sep, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 3600, HL (FRH); 4000, CarlL-C (DMK); 1300, CONWR, 30 Nov (DMn, JGd). Reported in 34 counties.

Surf Scoter
EA: 3 Oct, Montrose(4) (GAW). **MC**: 14, Gillson, 16 Oct (JRS). **Others:** LSpfld (2), 18 Oct & 19 Oct (4) (HDB); LCharleston (Coles Co) (1), 22 Oct- 5 Nov; then (3) 16 Nov (RBy); CarlL-C, 24 Oct-25 Nov (DMK:ph); CarlL-C (ad. drake) 28-29 Nov (DMK:ph, MSS). Reported in 5 counties.

White-winged Scoter
EA: 14 Nov, NPM (AFS, RNE). **MC**: 11, Wauk, 14 Nov (BJS). **Others**:. Reported in 2 counties.

Black Scoter

EA: 9 Oct, Montrose (ASA); 24 Oct, IBSP-N(2) (AOS). **MC**: Two at multiple locations. **Others**: LDec (2), 8 Nov (TAM, IOS); Gillson, 28 Nov (RDH, AFS, m.ob.); CarlL-C, 25 Oct & 31 Oct (2) (DMK); EForkL, 21 Nov (CLH:ph). Reported in 5 counties.

Long-tailed Duck

EA: 24 Nov, Wauk (AWS, AOS). **Others:** Montrose, 28-30 Nov (GAW, m.obs.); LSpfld (juv. female ** ISM, 29 Nov (HDB). Reported in 3 counties.

Bufflehead

EA: 11-12 Sep (2), IBSP-S (AOS, EWW, AFS, RNE). **MC**: 439, ClintonL, 20 Nov (MEF); 200, UMRNWR, 15 Nov (DBJ, ENSBC); 200, Chau, 20 Nov (CDn); 185, CONWR (JGd, DMn); 172, LSpfld, 20 Nov (HDB); 170, Emiquon, 20 Nov (CDn); 160, 29 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK). Reported in 37 counties.

Common Goldeneye

EA: 5 Aug, Humbolt Pk (Cook Co) (SBB); 11 Oct, RollinsSav (MMC, IOS) both out of season, most arrived in numbers in mid-Nov: 9 Nov, LSpfld(2) (HDB); 14 Nov, CarlL-C(2) (DMK). **MC**: 200, CarlL-C, 22 Nov (DMK); 150, Eastport Marina (Tazewell Co), 28 Nov (CDn); 78, Montrose, 28 Nov (GAW); 75, Emiquon, 28 Nov (CDn, TW); 63, LSpfld, 22 Nov (HDB). Reported in 30 counties.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE

Cooper Pk (Tazewell Co) (female), 22 Nov (TH, DHr).

Hooded Merganser

MC: 500, 28 Nov, Emiquon (CDn); 80, SagSl, 25 Nov (VS); 64, ClintonL, 20 Nov (MEF); 48, LSpfld, 20 Nov (HDB). **Others**: ShabbonaL (50), 20 Nov (BL); Dolphin Cove (43), 20 Nov (TH). Reported in 42 counties.

Common Merganser

EA: 2 Nov, NPM (LM); 7 Nov, LShel (TDF, IOS); 8 Nov, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 50, SagSl, 28 Nov (VS); 35, Northerly Island, 28 Nov (KRs). Reported in 13 counties.

Red-breasted Merganser

EA: 26 Sep, IBSP-S (AFS); 25 Oct, CarlL-C (3) (DMK); 30 Oct, Emiquon(4) (AGt); 30 Oct, ClintonL (MEF). **MC**: 1627, Montrose, 28 Nov (GAW); 750, Spring Bluff FP, 24 Nov (AR); 340, CONWR, 30 Nov (DMn, JGd). Reported in 17 counties.

Ruddy Duck

MC: 8050, Dixon WR, 9 Nov (DFS); 4140, HennepinL, 29 Nov (DFS); 2000, CarlL-C, 7 Nov (DMK); 1500, Chau, 14 Nov (CDn, TW). Reported in 52 counties.

Northern Bobwhite

MC: 15, Meredosia Hill Prairie NP (Morgan Co), 17 Oct (CDn, CLe). Reported in 27 counties.

Ring-necked Pheasant

MC: 8, Victoria Twp, (Knox Co), 24 Nov (DHh). Reported in 32 counties.

Greater Prairie-Chicken

MC: 10, PrRdg-M, 13 Nov (CLH); 8, PrRdg-J, 24 Nov (CLH).

Wild Turkey

MC: 40, CONWR, 30 Aug & 18 Nov (JZn, KRg); 35, MissPalis, 21 Sep (EB); 32, *Stephenson*, 28 Nov (BMnn). Reported in 59 counties. Increasing.

Pied-billed Grebe

MC: 300, Emiquon, 1 Nov (CDn); 246, Dixon WR, 21 Sep (DFS); 147, McGinnis, 24 Sep (WSS); 124, SpringL State FWA, 29 Sep (AGt); 91, LSpfld, 7 Nov (HDB); 84, L&D 13, 10 Oct (EWW); 60, CarlL-C, 7 Nov (DMK). Reported in 65 counties.

Horned Grebe

EA: 11 Sep, NPM (EWW); 25 Sep, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 160, CarlL-C, 29 Nov (DMK), 104, CONWR, 30 Nov (DMn, JGd); 101, LSpfld, 29 Nov (HDB); 60, LShel, 29 Nov (CDn). Reported in 26 counties.

Red-necked Grebe

EA: 18-19 Oct, LShel (TDF, TAM, CDn, CLe). **MC**: 2, Emiquon, 30 Oct (AGt). **Others:** LShel, 23-24 Oct (TDF, EWW); LSpfld (juv), 27 Oct-12 Nov (HDB, m.obs.), LSpfld (juv) 29-30 Nov (CLe, CDn:ph, TW, HDB); NPM, 29 Oct – 3 Nov (AOS, m.ob.); NPM, 15 Nov (BJS). Reported in 4 counties.

Eared Grebe

EA: 30-31 Aug, Akron, 4500 W Co Line Rd (Peoria Co) (DHh;ph, EC:ph, MAM, PF). **Others:** LSpfld, 10 Oct & two others seen 22-31 Oct (HDB, CLe). Reported in 2 counties.

Western Grebe

EA: 28-30 Nov, LShel, Rebel Bluff (TAM:ph, CDn, TW, TDF, RBy, EWr, CAT, m.ob.).

Rock Pigeon

MC: 420, *Winnebago*, 25 Nov (TK); 390, I-57 (Cook Co), 20 Oct (DFS); 200, CarlL-C, 8 Aug & 22 Nov (DMK). Reported in 80 counties.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

MC: 25, Havana Riverfront Pk (Mason Co), 9 Nov (AGt); 22, CarlL-C, 22 Nov (DMK); 18, south of Meredosia (Morgan Co), 10 Oct (CDn). Reported in 54 counties.

COMMON GROUND-DOVE

LincolnPk, 6-20 Nov (MIi:ph, MMC;ph, APS, LM, JHa:ph, JCs:ph, JSA:ph, TWe:ph, SLr:ph, FRM:ph, m.ob.), first confirmed Chicago area record; Bloomington (McLean Co), 18 Oct (**RMl). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Mourning Dove

MC: 300, *McHenry*, 29 Aug (EE); 300, CarlL-C, 22 Aug & 7 & 14 Nov (DMK); 256, Annawan Cattle Pond (Henry Co), 29 Aug (CAT); 250, Morgan, 23 Nov (CDn). Reported in 93 counties.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

MC: 12, Oakwood Bottoms--Big Muddy Levee Rd (Jackson Co), 20 Aug (HDr); 10, Carpenter-Gurgens Park, Sang 23 Sep (CLe). **LD**: 18 Oct, Lake Pk, Sang (V & GT). Reported in 60 counties.

Dead Common Ground-Dove. Bloomington Airport. McLean County. 18 October 2015. Photo by Rod Mitchell.

Black-billed Cuckoo

MC: 2 in *McHenry, Cook, DuPage & Kankakee,* 6 Aug-9 Sep (m.obs.). **LD**: 22 Oct, PineHills (JT). Reported in 20 counties.

Common Nighthawk

MC: 8855, Chi, 3 Sep (SJH); 6140, Chi 2 Sep (SJH); 4615, FSHW, 3 Sep (MF); 3245, Evanston, 3 Sep (MMC); 473, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB). Large migration along Lake Michigan on 3 Sep. **LD**: 15 Oct (3), Elsens Hill (PAM). Reported in 46 counties.

Chuck-will's Widow

Panther's Den Wilderness (Union Co), 10 Sep (CSy).

Eastern Whip-poor-will

MC: 3, SandRidge, 4-5 Sep (JIE). One still at SandRidge, 26 Sep (CDn, CLe). **LD**: 21 Oct, *McLean* (PA). Reported in 5 counties.

Chimney Swift

MC: 3000, Elgin (Kane Co), 1-5 Sep (RM); 1500, Montrose, 26 Sep (JIE); 1050, Burnham Pk, 6 Oct (DFS). **LD:** 30 Oct, IBHW (PWS, JLs). Reported in 66 counties.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird.
White County. 17 November 2015.
Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

MC: 61, Pomona (Jackson Co), 22 Aug (RR); 40, *Montgomery*, 18 Aug (NR); 38, *Monroe*, 10 Sep (C & PDh); 28, Dixon WR, 7 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 11 Nov – 3 Dec, *White* (ad. female)(SSe, CLH:ph, RES:ph, CH:banded). Reported in 76 counties.

Yellow Rail

Chic, 8 Sep & 17 Oct (CBCM). Both building strike casualties.

King Rail

Black Walnut Crk Headwaters FP, (Will Co), 1 Aug (SZ, DZ). The only report.

Virginia Rail

MC: 3, Fermi, 5 & 11 Sep (PAM). **LD**: 18 Nov, IBSP-S (EWW); 14 Nov, VoloBog Brandenburg M (BFS); 9 Nov, Dixon WR (DFS). Reported in 9 counties.

Sora

EA: 25 Aug, LSpfld (juv.**) (HDB). **MC**: 21, Fermi 13 Sep (PAM); 20, Emiquon, 25 Sep (AGt). **LD**: 26 Oct, Dixon WR (DFS). Reported in 33 counties.

American Coots at Coles Creek Recreation Area.
Clinton County. 7 November 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Common Gallinule

MC: 20, Emiquon, 5 Sep (CDn); 12, Dixon WR (JIE). **LD**: 1 Nov, Emiquon (CLe, CDn). **Others:** Pecatonica Wetlands FP, 2 Sep (JSA); Whitetail Ridge (Kendall Co) (7), 7 Sep (MSc, JNn); L&D 13, 20 Oct (EB). Reported in 8 counties.

American Coot

EA: 5 Aug, Beach (Sang) (HDB); 11 Sep, CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 28,500 Dixon WR, 26 Oct (DFS); 10,000 Emiquon, 22 Oct-28 Nov (CDn, TW, m.obs.); 5000, CarlL-C, 7 Nov (DMK); 4250, L&D 13, 14 Nov (DBJ, ENSBC). Reported in 62 counties.

Sandhill Crane

MC: 11,315, GVHW, 29 Nov (JAS). **Others**: *Peoria* (30), 20 Nov (DHh); *Coles* (197), 29 Nov (TAM, TDF); Eagle Crk SP (Shelby Co) (93), 29 Nov (TAM); CIPS L (27), 24 Nov (CLH); CarlL-C (29), 22 Nov (DMK:ph); Pocahontas (Bond Co) (50), 29 Nov (JBr); BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (2), 9 Nov (CLH); BaileyWet (Richland Co) (43), 30 Nov (CLH). Reported in 29 counties.

WHOOPING CRANE

EA: 3 Nov, Boone Crk CA (McHenry Co), (D & MCe). **Others**: *Winnebago* (4), 15 Nov (JCL); GVHW (5), 13 Nov, (VS, m.obs.); Cook(2), 22 Nov JSA); Muirhead Springs FP (Kane Co) (2), 22 Nov (WLz); GlacialPk (McHenry Co) (2), 24 Nov (MSt); BaileyWet (3), 10-30 Nov (CLH); Bonpas Cr (Wabash Co) (2), 29 Nov (CLH).

Black-necked Stilt

MC: 130, Chester (Randolph Co), 28 Aug (DMn); 115, KLMSNA (Monroe Co), 2 Aug (C&PD), 54, Emiquon, 30 Aug (DTW). **LD**: 24 Sep, Prairie du Pont Levee District(5) (St Clair Co) (KAM); 24 Sep (5), BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH). **Others**: Hillview (4) (Greene Co), 29 Aug (DHh); *Woodford* (3), 4 Aug (TH); Ellery (Edwars Co) (6), 18 July (CLH). Reported in 19 counties.

Whooping Cranes.
Bailey Wetland.
Wayne and Richland
Counties. 12 November 2015.
Photo by Leroy Harrison

American Avocet

EA: 9 Jul, Stateline Beach (Lake Co) (JPL), 18 July, *Iroquois* (GS); 19 Jul, Beach (5) (Sang) (HDB). **MC**: 26, EForkL, 12 Oct (CLH:ph); 12, Marine Pt (Sang), 19 Aug (HDB); 11, Chau, 6 Nov (KAM); 9, Emiquon, 7 Aug (AGt); 9, Chau, 23 Oct (AGt); 6, CONWR 15 Oct (JGd, DMn); 5, 12 Oct, Gillson (RJD). **LD**: 10-15 Nov, Carbondale Res. (2) (Jackson Co) (JT); 1 Nov, Chau(2) (CLe:ph, CDn, TW); Oct 7, LSpfld (2) (HDB). Reported in 15 counties.

Black-bellied Plover

EA: 28 Jul, *Alexander* (WDR). **MC**: 11, Two Rivers, 10 Oct (WCR, PL); 9, Chau, 23 Aug (CDn, m.obs.). **LD**: 1 Nov, Chau (8) (CDn, CLe); 29 Oct (2), BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH:ph). Reported in 20 counties.

American Golden Plover

EA: 3 Aug, Curless Rd (Fulton Co) (AG). **MC**: 77, H & E Sod Farm, Ahern (Kankakee Co), 9 Sep (JBH); 34, Dunteman Sod Farm, Kaneville (Kane Co), 22 Sep (JPL). **LD**: 8 Nov, Big L (Brown Co) (CDn); 2 Nov, Oswego (Kendall Co) (JNn, MSt). Reported in 29 counties.

Semipalmated Plover

EA: 4 Jul, Springs Rd (Union Co) (JT); 6 Jul, Washington (2) (Tazewell Co) (SZr); 17 Jul, *Livingston* (APS, DBJ). **MC**: 75, Chau, 23 Aug (TAM); 50 TwoRivers, 3 Oct (DWb). **LD**: 24 Oct RendL-J(4) (DMn). Reported in 34 counties.

Piping Plover

EA: 17-19 July, Cullom, (Livingston Co) (APS, DBJ, BMy:ph, m.obs.). Five birds: adult female and 4 chicks in *Lake* on 28 July (DRD). **LD**: 19 Sep, *Lake* (AFS, AOS).

Killdeer

MC: 2500, CarlL-C, 6-8 Sep (DMK:ph); 2161, Emiquon, 21 Aug (DBJ, RNE). **LD**: 29 Nov, Independence Grove FP (Lake Co) (AFS). Reported in 87 counties.

Upland Sandpiper

EA: 27 July, Sang (CLe); 28 July, *Alexander* (WDR). **LD**: 7 Sep, Wauk & IBSP-S (same bird) (EWW:ph); 7 Sep, CarlL-C

Marbled Godwit. Illinois Beach State Park. Lake County. 18 July 2015. Photo by Nat Carmichael.

Hudsonian Godwit. Milks Grove Township. Iroquois County. 11 November 2015. Photo by Don Blecha.

(DMK);. **Others:** Emiquon, 21 Aug (DBJ); IL-10 & Madigan Dr (Logan Co), 31 Jul (RDn); Heartland Turf Farms, Steppig Road (Randolph Co), 3 Aug (DHt); *Wayne*, 4 Aug (RES, CLH). Reported in 15 counties.

Whimbrel

EA: 28 Jul, *Alexander* (WDR); 29 Jul, *Rock Island* Arsenal (RS). **MC& LD**: 2, Park No. 566, Chi, 29 Sep (CGi); 24 Sep, Montrose (juv.) (LGM:ph, ASA, RDH). **Others:** Montrose, 12 Aug (FRM:ph); Montrose, 18 Aug (FRM); Montrose, 6 Sep (TBL); Mendenhall Park (Peoria Co), 26 Sep (DHh); Chau, 6 Sep (KBR); Chau, 10-11 Sep (MI, KBR, DHh, MHB). All reports.

Hudsonian Godwit

EA & MC: 23 Aug (46) (REF, UWG, VS, MJW, SAu, TAM, KBR, DBJ:ph, m.obs.). **LD**: 10-14 Nov, *Iroquois* (JBH:ph). **Others**: TwoRivers, 17 Sep (DHh); Emiquon(1-2), 26 Aug – 26 Sep (CLe, CDn, m.obs.); Chau (10), 7 Sep (CLe); CarlL-F, 19 Sep (KAM, TAM, APS, MB, CAT, IOS, m. obs.); RendL-J, 12 Oct (JT, DMn, LSy); BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (2), 3-4 Oct (RES; CLH) and one through 15 Oct (CLH:ph) Reported in 9 counties.

Marbled Godwit

EA: 18 Jul, IBSP-S (BJS, NCl); 4 Aug, KLMSNA (Monroe Co) (AG); 28 Aug- 20 Sep, Emiquon (GH, SAu, MJW, m.obs.). **MC:** 2, Chau, 5 Sep (JIE). **LD**: 17 Oct, Spunky Bottoms (Brown Co) (CDn, TW, CLe); 12 Oct, RollinsSav (BJS, AOS). **Others**: TwoRivers 7-12 Sep (KAM, WCR, m.obs.). Reported in 6 counties.

Ruddy Turnstone

EA: 1 Aug, LCharleston (Coles Co) (RBy); 8 Aug, IBSP-S (AFS, RNE, NCl); 8 Aug 87th St Steel Mills(2), Chi (AG, EG). **LD**: 19 Sep, CarlL-F (IOS). **Others**: Wauk, 20-28 Aug (AWS, JWL, AFS, m.obs.); Yorkville (Kane Co), 23 Aug (DJS); Riverplex Sandbar(2;1) (Tazewell Co), 6-7 Sep (SZr, DHh); AndersonL(2), 19 Aug (CLe); Emiquon & Chau (2-1), 21 Aug- 9 Sep (MI, DBJ, RNE, ENSBC, m.obs.); LShel, 20-24 Aug (V & GT, TAM, CLe, RBy). Reported in 9 counties.

Red Knot

EA: 21-22 Aug, LChau (2) (KBR, MI, KAM, ENSBC, m. obs.). **LD**: 3 Oct, LShel (juv) (TAM, TDF, RBy). **Others**: Wauk (2), 3 Sep (AFS, PWS); Dunteman Sod Farm, Kaneville (Kane Co), 2 Sep (JLg, TB); Emiquon, 8-9 Sep (ASA, AGt, DKl, CLe); *Peoria,* 23-25 Aug (EC, PF, MI, KBR, APS, AFS);. Reported in 6 counties.

Stilt Sandpiper

EA: 5 Jul, Emden (Logan Co) (NG, APS); 8 Jul, BaileyWet (CLH); 14 Jul, Poor Farm Rd (Morgan Co) (CDn); 15 Jul, Washington (Tazewell Co) (SZr); 16 Jul, American Way M (Lake Co) (BJS, AOS, AWS); 17 Jul, *Livingston* (DBJ, APS). **MC**: 125, *Mason*, 23 Aug (CDn); 100, *Brown*, 5 & 10 Aug (CDn, CLe); 85, CarlL-F, 19 Sep (TAM). **LD**: 1 Nov, Chau (CDn, CLe): 25 Oct, Oswego (Kendall Co) (RJ); 19 Oct, LShel (RBy). Reported in 38 counties.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper.
Illinois Beach State Park.
Lake County. 16 September 2015.
Photo by Annette McClellan.

Sanderling

EA: 18 Jul, IBSP-S (8) (AFS, RNE). **MC**: 62, Rainbow Beach, Chi, 12 Sep (GAW); 20, Wauk, 21 Sep (AMC); Chau (13), 22 Aug (DBJ, CDn, ENSBC); **LD**: 7 Nov, Montrose (MLe, m.obs.). **Others:** Island View (Whiteside Co) (2) 28 Aug (DTW, PH); Dallas City (Hancock Co), 29 Aug (CAT); EPSP, 27-30 Aug (TH, DHh, BMy:ph, m.obs.); Riverplex (Tazewell Co) (1-2), 2-10 Sep (PF, DHh, EC, MJB, m.obs.); LShel, 20 Aug (V & GT, RBy); Monroe (3), 5 Aug (KH); Prairie du Pont Levee District (St. Clair Co) 24 Sep (KAM); CarlL-C(4), 5 Sep (DMK); BaileyWet (Wayne Co), 16 Oct (CLH:ph). Reported in 15 counties.

Dunlin

EA: 7 Aug, TwoRivers(5) (BSf, CSm). **MC**: 300, IBSP-S, 20 Oct (AMC), this group was later than the Montrose flock; 278, Montrose, 20 Oct (AFS, FRM:ph); 250, Chau, 10 Nov (AGt); 157, LShel, 6 Nov (TAM, TDF). **LD**: 28 Nov, Chau(6) (CDn); 26 Nov, Wauk (AOS). Reported in 34 counties.

Baird's Sandpiper

EA: 14 Jul, Poor Farm Rd (Morgan Co) (CDn); 19 Jul (3), Sullivan 32000-32998 East 1800 No. Road (Livingston Co) (DHh, REF, RDF). **MC**: 46, Chau, 5 Sep (TAM); 15, Two Rivers, 9 Oct (EWW); 10, EPSP, 29 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 12-25 Nov, Sangchris (juv.), latest ever for fall in Sang (HDB:ph); 25-26 Oct, Fermi (GP, PAM); 24 Oct, LShel (EWW); 18-21 Oct, Montrose (juv. with injured leg) (JCs, ASA:ph, GAW, MMC, DKA:ph). **Others**: Amax (Wabash Co) (9), 26 Aug (CLH). Reported in 31 counties.

Least Sandpiper

EA: 16 June (2), Montrose (BHg); 24 June, *Lake* (JLs). These early dates are assumed to be fall adult migrants. **MC**: 565, Two Rivers, 9 Oct (EWW); 500, Chau, 7 Sep (PAM); 300, CarlL-F, 19 Sep (TAM, IOS). **LD**: 29 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK); 28 Nov (82) Carlyle Sewage Ponds (Clinton Co) (MSS). Reported in 60 counties.

White-rumped Sandpipers.
Carlyle Lake Sewage Ponds. Clinton County. 4 October 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

White-rumped Sandpiper.
Yorkville. Kendall County.
11 October 2015.
Photo by Jackie Bowman.

White-rumped Sandpiper

EA: 19 Jul, *Livingston* (REF, RDF); 1 Aug, Beecher (Will Co) (CAT); 1 Aug (2), Cattail Pk (Whiteside Co) (EB, ASt); 1 Aug, *McDonough* (C & RDs). **MC**: 500, Chau, 10 Oct (CDn); 225, Chau, 6 Oct (KBR); 200, Emiquon, 13 Oct (AGt); 145, TwoRivers, 9 Oct (EWW); 113, BaileyWet (Wayne Co), 9 Oct (CLH); 100, LShel FWMA, 24 Oct (EWW, m. obs.); 70, RendL-F, 12 Oct (DMn); 72, Thomson UMRNWR, 10 Oct (EWW); 72, *Kendall*, 11-14 Oct (JV, LV, WSS, m.obs.); 70, RendL-F, 12 Oct (DMn); 48, CarlL-C, 22 Oct (CLH); 45, Sang. 17 Oct (HDB); 40, CarlL-C, 17 Oct (DMK:ph); 39, LShel Bruce Gravel Pit Access, 18-19 Oct (RBy:ph,TDF); 37, *Wayne*, 4 Oct (RES); 30, 500 E Rd (Iroquois Co), 10-17 Oct (GS:ph); 30, RendL-J, 18 Oct (JGd); 23, Fermi, 20 Oct (PAM); 14, EPSP, 6 Oct (TH); 14, EagleL (3), 4 Oct (Will Co) (DZ); 12, LMauvaisterre (Morgan Co), 3 Oct (CDn); 11, American Way M (Lake Co), 6 Oct (BJS). **LD**: 26 Nov, KankakeePks (JBH:ph); 14 Nov, CarlL-C (KRg); 9 Nov, BaileyWet (CLH); 8 Nov, BakersL (4) (EES, PAM); 8 Nov, Pingree Grove (Kane Co) (JC, H & SDe); 7 Nov, LShel FWMA (2) (TDF). **Others**: RockCut(6), 18 Oct (EWW); Arispie Marsh (3) (Bureau Co), 22-26 Oct (MAM,AFS); LCharleston (3) (Coles Co), 15 Oct (TDF); Amax (Wabash Co), 13 Aug (CLH); EForkL (7), 22 Oct (CLH); Chauncey M (Lawrence Co) (4), 10 Oct (CLH). Reported in 39 counties. Heretofore a major fall irruptive migration in a season which is normally very limited for this species. Impressive large migratory numbers, mostly juveniles, lingering well into November most likely due to an eastern Hudson Bay "blocking high" in late September with strong east to northeast winds most likely from the east coast hurricane "Joaquin;" thus deflecting a normal migration pattern along the Atlantic coast into the interior of North America.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

EA: 30 Jul(4), Book Rd Sod Farm (Will Co) (SZ, m.obs.); 30 Jul, *Tazewell* (MI). **MC**: 33, Wheeler Rd W of Schlapp Rd sod farms (Kendall Co), 4 Aug (SJH, NG); 22, *Brown*, 6 Aug (AFS, APS, AWS); 16, Chau, 5 Sep (JIE); 15, Dunteman Sod Farm, Kaneville (Kane Co), 2 Aug (PAM); 14, Emiquon, 31 Aug (AGt); 11, MomenceSod, 9 Sep (JBH). **LD**: 27 Sep, Dunteman Sod Farm (Kane Co)

(JNn). **Others:** Greene Valley FP--83rd St, 28 Aug (DKl, JAS, m.obs.); Worley Lake, Pekin Lake FWA (Tazewell Co), 31 Aug (DHr); Naples (Scott Co), 29 Aug (DHh); LShel, 31 Aug (TDF); CarlL-F(2), 19-26 Sep (IOS, DMK); BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (3), 5 Sep (CLH); Central Bend Rd -- Dogtooth Island (2) (Alexander Co), 6 Aug (NSy, SBn). Reported in 20 counties.

Western Sandpiper. Carlyle Lake. Clinton County. 6 September 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Pectoral Sandpiper

EA: 1 Jul, WhispWil (JBH); 1 Jul, Walmart Retention Ponds (McHenry Co) (JAn). **MC**: 3775, Forgotten Rd (Fulton Co), 17 Aug (EG); 3500, Central Bend Rd (Alexander Co), 29 Jul (KAM); 3250, *Brown*, 5 Aug (CDn); 2500, *Calhoun*, 4 Aug (AG); 2000, *Mason*, 23 Aug (CDn); 1750, KLMSNA, 4 Aug (CDn); 1500, Four Corners, Meredosia (Morgan Co) 8 Aug (TWf). **LD**: 10 Nov, *Iroquois* (JBH). Reported in 55 counties.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

EA: 6 Jul, Montrose (DSe); 14 Jul (4), Boogerville (Wayne Co) (CLH). **MC**: 200, Chau, 5 Sep (JIE); 125, Brown, 5 Aug (CDn). **LD**: 1 Nov, Mauvaise Terre L--Dredging Ponds (Morgan Co) (CDn); 10 Oct, Emiquon (CDn); 9 Oct(4), TwoRivers (EWW). Reported in 46 counties.

Western Sandpiper

EA: 15 Aug, Nygren Wetlands (Winnebago Co) (DTW); 16-22 Aug, Oswego (Kendall Co) (JV, m.obs.); 17 Aug, Beach(2) (Sang) (HDB). **MC**: 2 in ten counties: *Clinton, Coles, Fayette, Fulton, Mason, Moultrie, Randolph, Sangamon, Wayne and Woodford*; all in Aug-Sep. **LD**: 16-17 Sep (2), Carlyle Sewage Ponds (Clinton Co) (MSS, IOS). Reported in 13 counties.

Short-billed Dowitcher

EA: 5 Jul, Seavey Rd Fluddle (Kane Co) (SAC,BL); 5 Jul(2), *Fulton* (CDn). **MC**: 49, BaileyWet, 8 July (CLH); 12, PDh); KLMSNA, 2 Aug (C & PDh); 8, Cullom Fluddle 1800N-3300E (Livingston Co), 17 Jul (TH, B & CMy). **LD**: 26 Sep (2), Emiquon (CDn, CLe). Reported in 31 counties.

Long-billed Dowitcher

EA: 10 Aug (2), Emiquon (CLe). **MC**: 150, Chau, 1 Nov (CDn, CLe, TW). **LD**: 14 Nov, Chau(12) (TW, CDn); 13 Nov, Sangchris, Sang (HDB). Reported in 23 counties.

Red-necked Phalarope. Bailey Wetland. Wayne and Richland Counties. 31 August 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

American Woodcock

EA: 28 Aug, Meadowbrook Pk, Urbana (Champaign Co) (RD). **MC**: 10, CarlL-C, 16 Oct (CHy). **LD**: 27 Nov, LincPk-NP (JGo); 20 Nov, Burnidge FP (Kane Co) (JWn); 20 Nov, L Chaminwood Preserve (Will Co) (JSr). Reported in 20 counties.

Wilson's Snipe

EA: 20 Jul(5), HL (JCm); 22 Jul, 700N-2500E to 2600E (Woodford Co) (TH); 25 Aug (3), Sang (HDB). **MC**: 43, 27 Oct, *Iroqouis* (JBH); 40, TwoRivers, 10 Oct (WCR, PL); 30 Emiquon, 1 Nov (CDn). **LD**: 28 Nov, Hidden L FP (DuPage Co) (MAM); 24 Nov, Centennial Pk, Sang (HDB). Reported in 46 counties.

Spotted Sandpiper

MC: 28, JP, 29 June (PRC); 20, Oswego, 12 Aug (RJ). **LD**: 7 Nov, Montrose (MLe); 2 Nov, BakersL (C & CF); 23-29 Oct, Techny Basin (Cook Co) (JPL, MMC, JRS, AFS); 19-29 Oct, Lake Charleston (Coles Co) (RBy); 25 Oct, Normantown Wetlands (Will Co) (DKl); 25 Oct, Resevoir (DuPage Co) (ABA). Reported in 58 counties.

Solitary Sandpiper

EA: 29 June, BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH); 5 July, *Lake* (3) (BJS); 5 Jul, *Fulton* (CDn); 5 Jul, Carpentersville Dam (Kane Co) (PRi). **MC**: 38, *Scott*, 4 Aug (CDn); 26, American Way M (Lake Co), 30 Jul (AWS). **LD**: 23 Oct-1 Nov, Fabyan Marsh (DuPage Co) (JC, PRi, ph, m.ob.). Reported in 54 counties.

Lesser Yellowlegs

EA: 22 Jun, Sang(2) (JMq); 23 Jun, WhispWil (JBH); 24 Jun, Fermi (GP, KW, m.obs.). **MC**: 650, *Mason*, 23 Aug (CDn); 250, Forgotten Rd, (Fulton Co), 17 Aug (EG); 130, *Alexander* (WDR).

Red Phalarope. Eldon Hazlet State Park. Clinton County. 1 November 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

LD: 15 Nov, LShel--WdsL (V&GT); 15 Nov, Pyramid SP (Perry Co) (JT); 13 Nov, *White* (RES). Reported in 53 counties.

Willet

EA: 9 Jul, Montrose (4) (ASA); 11 Jul, Montrose (LGM); 13 Jul, Gridley WTP (McClean Co) (BMy:ph). **MC**: 11, Montrose, 9 Aug (AT). **LD**: 12 Sep, Chau (3) & Emiquon (MHB, PF). **Others**: Minonk (Woodford Co), 26 Aug (TH, DHh, m.obs.); *Coles*, 21 Jul (RBy); *Scott*, 25 Jul (CDn); Amax (Wabash Co), 26 Aug (CLH). Reported in 12 counties.

Greater Yellowlegs

EA: 5 Jul, Seavey Rd(2) (Kane Co.) (BL); 5 Jul, Greenview Sod Farm (Woodford Co) (TH); 5 Jul, *Fulton* (2) (CDn); 8 Jul(5), BaileyWet (CLH). **MC**: 50, Chau 10-16 Oct (CDn, AGt); 50, Meredosia NWR, 25 Oct (CDn); 40, Emiquon, 18 Aug (CLe). **LD**: 29 Nov, Havana Power Plant Cooling Pond (Mason Co) (TH, DHr); 15-24 Nov, Fermi (GP, DLe, TWf). Reported in 45 counties.

Wilson's Phalarope

EA: 5 Jul, Logan (APS, NG); 9 Jul, Jonesboro (Union Co) (DMn); 19 July, Iroquois (GS). **MC**: 4, Chau, 21-23 Aug (DKl, BMy, JP). **LD**: 19 Sep, CarlL-C (APS, TAM, IOS); 19 Sep (3) Bonnie-RendL-J (NW). Reported in 25 counties.

Red-necked Phalarope

EA: 4 Aug, *Brown & Wayne* (CDn, RES); 5 Aug, Curless Rd (Fulton Co) (LB, DTW, DHr, CAT); 7 Aug, Spfld (HDB:ph). **MC**: 6, Chau, 22 Aug (DBJ, NT, ENSBC). **LD**: 10 Oct, Chau (CDn); 6-7 Oct, Gridley WTP (McClean Co) (DHh, BMy, JP). **Others:** LBloomington (McLean Co), 7-9 Sep (AW, MJW, SAu, m.obs.); EPSP, 9 Sep (TH); CarlL-C, 4 Oct (DMK:ph, MSS); CONWR, 5 Oct (DMn, JGd). Reported in 12 counties.

Red Phalarope

EA: 27 Jul, Mauvaise Terre L (Morgan Co) (CDn, CLe, KAM); 17-18 Aug (ad.), PeacockM (MWd, PAM, AFS, APS, ASA, NL:ph, m. obs.). **Others:** LSpfld (juv.), 14-15 Oct (HDB). **LD**: 1-6 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK:ph, MSS, CLH, DH:ph, m.obs.). Reported in 4 counties.

PARASITIC JAEGER

EA: 7 Sep (dark phase juv), Chau (MI, CDn:ph, TW, AGt, CLe). Others: Wauk, 13 Sep (WMC:ph).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER

EA: 12-19 Jul (2nd year), HL (CKo, FRH:ph, JPM:ph, DHt:ph, KAM:ph, BJ:ph, MAMaa:ph, CMM, m. obs.). See details in IORC report in this issue.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE

Montrose (juv), 13 Nov (GAW, LGM, RDH).

Bonaparte's Gull

EA: 7 Jul, CONWR (WW); 21 Jul, Wauk (AWS); 1 Aug, Waterfall Glen South--Des Plaines River (DuPage Co) (VS). **MC**: 8000, CarlyleL, 22-25 & 29 Nov (DMK). Seen into December. Reported in 43 counties.

LITTLE GULL

EA: 21 Aug (juv), Chau (MI:ph). **LD**: LShel(1st cycle), 18 Oct-15 Nov (TAM, TDF, RBy, CDn, EW, m.obs). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Laughing Gull

EA: 5 Aug (ad), CarlL-C (DMK); 29-30 Aug (ad), Emiquon (DTW). **MC**: 4 (2 ad.; 2 juv.), CarlL-C, 3 Oct (DMK). **Others:** Meredosia NWR, 25 Oct (CDn); RendL-J, 9 Oct (JT). **LD**: 26 Nov (2), CarlL-C (DMK:ph). Reported in 5 counties.

Franklin's Gull

EA: 26 Sep (juv.), LSpfd (HDB). **MC**: 334, RendL-J, 24 Oct (DMn); 250, NPM, 12 Nov (AOS, m.ob.); 175, Villa Maria retreat, Sang, 24 Oct (CDn); 150, CarlL-C, 23 Oct (KAM); 130, IBHW, 12 Oct (PWS, JSw); 120, IBSP-N, 12 Nov (A & WMC); 109, Sang., 14 Oct (HDB); 106, EForkL, 12 Nov (CLH); 91, Montrose, 12 Oct (FRM); 90, IBSP-N, 12 Oct (JLs); 83, HL 13 Oct (FRH); 77, CONWR, 1 Nov (DMn). **LD**: 30 Nov (1st winter), LSpfld (HDB:ph); 29 Nov, LShel, Rebel Bluff (TDF, CDn); 28 Nov(2), CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 20 Nov, Gillson (MMC, FRM); 20 Nov(2), LCharleston (Coles Co) (RBy); 20 Nov(2), Chau, (CDn). Reported in 29 counties.

Ring-billed Gull

MC: 12,000, CarlL-C, 25 & 28-29 Nov (DMK); 3000, *Effingham*, 29 Nov (FMy, DF); 2500, Chau, 12 Sep (KAM). Reported in 66 counties.

Herring Gull

EA: 1 & 3 Aug (imm & HY), LSpfld (HDB); 5 Sep (ad.), CarlL-C (DMK:ph). **MC**: 1230, NPM, 9 Nov (EWW). Reported in 36 counties.

Iceland (Thayer's) Gull

EA: 2 Oct (2), Lake County Fairgrounds (AOS); 7-8 Nov (juv.), CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 3, Lake County Fairgrounds, 24 Nov (AWS). Reported in 5 counties.

Little Gull, center, with two Bonaparte's Gulls. Lake Shelbyville. Moulrie County. 24 October 2015. Photo by Tyler Funk.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

EA: 5 Aug (3rd cycle), CarlL-C (DMK); 26 Aug (ad.), NPM (AFS); 12-19 Sep (juv), LSpfld (HDB:ph). **MC**: 5 (4 juv & 1 ad), CarlL-C, 18 Oct, (DMK:ph). Reported in 13 counties.

SLATY-BACKED GULL

Mississippi R (Rock Island Co), 25 Nov (JFe:ph).

Glaucous Gull

EA: 23 Oct (1st cycle), IBSP-N (AOS). **Others**: Ben Butterworth Pkwy, Moline (Rock Island Co) 28 Nov (CDn). Two reports.

Great Black-backed Gull

EA: 7-27 Jul – 26 Nov (1-2 imm), 87th St Steel Mills, Chi (EDG, AG, EG, m.obs.). **Others**: Wauk (3rd cycle), 12 Aug (AWS); IBHW, 1 Nov (PWS, JSw, m.obs.). All reports.

Least Tern

MC: 118, Central Bend Rd (Alexander Co), 29 Jul (KAM). **LD**: 22 Aug(2), Watson Road ponds (Alexander Co) (AGn). **Others**: Neunert Rd (Jackson Co), 21 Aug (DMn, JT); Fluddles Elliot Rd (Jackson Co) (2), 1 Aug (TH, DHr); Amax (Wabash Co) (3), 9 Aug (CLH); BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (juv.), 17 Aug (CLH). Reported in four counties.

Caspian Tern

MC: 70, CarlL-C, 5 Aug (DMK:ph); 51, Emiquon, 8 Sep (ASA DKl); 34, Amax (Wabash Co), 9 Aug (CLH). **LD**: 9 Oct (5), RendL-F (DMn); 6 Oct (2), RollinsSav (BJS); 3 Oct, HeideckeL (DTW, TWf, PF, IOS). Reported in 33 counties.

Black Tern

EA: 9 July(2), Boogerville (Wayne Co) (CLH). **MC**: 200, 23 Aug, CarlL-C (DMK); 150, CarlL-C, 19 Sep (IOS). **LD**: 26 Sep(2), CarlL-C (DMK); 24 Sep, Emiquon (AGt). Reported in 29 counties.

Common Tern

MC: 15, 87th St Steel Mills, Chic 7 Sep (AG). **LD**: 19 Oct - 3 Nov, LShel (RBy, ASA:ph, SL:ph, DKl:ph) present since 19 Oct; 24 Oct (2) CarlL-C (DMK:ph). Reported in 15 counties.

Black Tern.
Carlyle Lake.
Clinton County. 8 August 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Royal Tern.
Lake County.
19 August 2015.
Photo by Annette McClellan.

Forster's Tern

EA: 8 July (5), EForkL (CLH). **MC**: 150, CarlL-C, 10 Oct (DMK); 100, RendL-J, 2 Oct (DMn). **LD**: 16-30 Nov, CONWA(2) (JGd, DMn); 26 Nov(2); CarlL-C (DMK:ph). Reported in 23 counties.

ROYAL TERN

Wauk (ad.), 19-20 Aug (AMC:ph, WMC, PWS, JSw:ph). Fourth accepted record for Illinois. See details in IORC report in this issue.

Red-throated Loon

EA: 13 Oct, IBHW(2) (PSW). **MC**: 4, IBHW, 7 Nov. **Others:** Gillson, 28 Nov (AFS, AWS, FRM, JRS); Emiquon, 30 Oct (AGt); LShel, 28 Nov (TAM); CarlL-C, 22-29 Nov (DMK:ph, DMn).

Pacific Loon

IBSP-S, 25 Nov (AWS); CarlL-C, 30 Oct (DMK).

Common Loon

EA: 11 Sep, Gillson(2) (AFS, MMC); 27 Sep, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 60, CarlL-C, 15 Nov (DMK); 34, LSpfld, 14 Nov (HDB); 27, LShel, 28 Nov (TAM). Reported in 28 counties.

WOOD STORK

Sun Lake FP (Lake Co), 21 Oct (PWW:ph, JKB, NHr). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Wood Stork.
Lake County.
21 October 2015.
Photo by Philip Willink.

Snowy Egret.
Yorkville. Kendall County.
12 October 2015.
Photo by Wes Serafin.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT

Emiquon, 10 Aug (CDn:ph, CLe).

Double-crested Cormorant

MC: 12,000 CarlL-C, 24-25 Oct (DMK); 2000, Emiquon, 10 Oct (CDn); 1160, Northerly Island, 4 Sep (JIE). Reported in 64 counties.

American White Pelican

MC: 10,000 CarlL-C, 12-13 & 26-27 Sep (DMK); 7000 - 9000 Chau, 5 Sep (JIE, CDn); 4,000 Ina (Jefferson Co), 2 Oct (DMn); 3000, TwoRivers, 13 Aug (BSf, CSm); 2300 HL, 10 Oct (FRH). **LD**: 26 Nov, Evanston & Montrose (Cook Co) (FRM, ASA); 1200 still at CarlL-C, 29 Nov (DMK). Reported in 49 counties.

American Bittern

EA: 11 Sep, FSHW (AWS). **MC**: 12, Emiquon, 25 Sep (AGt). **LD**: 13 Nov, LincPk (JPL, BD, MIi, TWf); 11 Nov, RollinsSav (BSk). Reported in 12 counties.

Least Bittern

MC: 8, Emiquon, 25 Sep (AGt). **LD:** 28 Sep, Emiquon (AFS, APS). Reported in 9 counties.

Great Blue Heron

MC: 400, Chau (CDn); 200, BigL (Brown Co), 5 Aug (CDn); 180, RendL-F, 23 Aug (JGd). Reported in 83 counties.

Common Loon. Carlyle Lake.
Clinton County. 7 November 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Great Egret

MC: 2000, Chau, 5 Sep (CDn); 949, KLMSNA (Monroe Co) 5 Aug (C & PDh). **LD**: 28 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 27 Nov, HL (FRH). Reported in 60 counties.

Snowy Egret

MC: 14, Island Rd (Jackson Co), 31 Aug (JT); 12, E Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co), 7 Sep (LBk). **LD:** 12 Oct, Yorkville (Kendall Co) (WSS, MMr:ph, m.obs.). Reported in 12 counties.

Little Blue Heron

MC: 67, Monroe, 4 Aug (AG). **LD**: 14 Oct, Big Muddy W (Jackson Co) (JT). Reported in 14 counties.

Cattle Egret

MC: 20, CarlL-C, 12 Sep (MEF). **LD**: 9 Nov, Fermi (DKl:ph, LP); 7 Nov, IBHW; 1 Nov, NPM (NL:ph). **Others**: CarlL-C, 30 Oct (DMK); Amax (Wabash Co) (2), 9 Aug (CLH:ph). Reported in 8 counties.

Green Heron

MC: 15, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 9 Sep (RAB); 10, Fermi, 20 Aug (DBC); 10, Watershed NC, Edwardsville (Madison Co), 12 Sep (CKo); 10, Four Corners, Meredosia (Morgan Co), 17 Aug (EG). **LD**: 4 Nov, NPBW (GAW). Reported in 54 counties.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

MC: 25, Emiquon, 23-25 Sep (AGt); 11, Four Corners, Meredosia (Morgan Co), 15 Aug (TWf). **LD**: 30 Nov, LincPk, Chi (JIN). Reported in 20 counties.

American White Pelican.
Carlyle Lake. Clinton County.
22 November 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

MC: 2 in five counties: *Calhoun, Champaign, Clinton, Monroe & Morgan*. **LD**: 14 Oct, Kaufman Park, (Champaign Co). **Others**: JP, 10 Sep (ASA, PAD, MMC); CarlL-C(imm.), 15 Aug (DMK). Reported in 8 counties.

WHITE IBIS

CarlL-C, 12 Sep (JE, BSs, MSS, KAM:ph, m.obs.). See details in IORC Report in this issue.

WHITE-FACED IBIS

Pingree Grove (Kane Co), 5-13 Nov (JL, TB, RM:ph, DKl:ph, m.obs.).

Plegadis sp.

GLPSNA, 9 Nov (LM); Dixon WR, 9 Nov (DFS); St Joseph Wetland (Champaign Co), 21-25 Oct (MW, TH:ph,); Emiquon, 7 Nov (AGt).

Black Vulture

MC: 36, Murphysboro (Jackson Co), 8 Nov (RR); 30, East Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co) (LBk); 20 CONWR, 6 Nov (EJ, KMs). **Others**: Lincoln Trail SP (Clark Co), 4 Oct (V &GT); Franklin (5), 25 Nov (CSn). Reported in 13 counties, nearly all in deep southern Illinois.

Turkey Vulture

MC: 200, CarlL-C, 20 Sep (DMK); 147, GVHW, 16 Oct; 130, Villa Maria retreat (Sang) (CDn); 118, Sang, 19 Sep (HDB). **LD:** 29 Nov, EvergreenL (McLean Co), (PA, TG); 29 Nov, LShel(2) (MMr); 28 Nov, *Peoria* (2) (CDn); 22 Nov, GVHW (VS, JAS). Reported in 93 counties.

Osprey

EA: 15 Aug, IBSP-S (2) (AFS, RNE); 20 Aug, FSHW(9) (AWS). **MC**: 23, 11 Sep FSHW (AWS); 20, IBHW, 10 Sep; 14, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 11 Sep (RAB). **LD**: 22 Nov, MArb & GVHW (ED, JZ, m.ob.); 13 Nov, IBHW (PWS, KKn, JRRS, m.obs.); 12 Nov, EForkL (CLH:ph). **Others**: CIPS L (Jasper Co) 23 July (CLH); EForkL(4), 9 Sep (CLH). Reported in 51 counties.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.
Kaufman Lake.
Champaign County.
5 September 2015.
Photo by Ed Baumgarten.

1.

2.

3.

1. White-faced Ibis.
Pingree Grove Water Treatment Plant Marsh. Kane County.
10 November 2015.
Photo by Gordon Garcia.

2. Plegadis sp. Bailey Wetland. Wayne and Richland Counties.
17 October 2015.
Photo by Leroy Harrison.

3. Pleagadis sp. St. Joseph Wetland. Champaign County.
21 October 2015.
Photo by Jeff Bryant.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE

Effingham, 23 Aug (DWe); *Champaign*, 23 Aug - 10 Sep (CE, WL:ph, JCL:ph, DBJ:ph, GEN:ph; CAT, MWrd, DTW, JCL:ph, LGB, m.obs.). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Mississippi Kite

EA: 15 Sep, IBHW. **MC**: 13, Murphysboro (Jackson Co), 29 Aug (RR); 7, Granite City (Madison Co), 9 Sep (FRH). **LD**: 30 Sep, CONWR (JT); 18 Sep (IBHW); 1 Sep, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (JCL). **Others**: CarlL-C, 12 Sep (DWb, JEs). Reported in 15 counties.

Bald Eagle

EA: 30 Aug, IBSP (IBHW); 11 Sep, FSHW. **MC**: 25, Dixon WR, 12 Oct (DFS); 17, *Rock Island*, 15 Oct (SHr). Reported in 72 counties.

Northern Harrier

MC: 27, Chi, a rooftop count, 13 Nov (SJH, MMC, GEN); 26, IBHW, 7 Nov; 23, FSHW (AWS), 13 Oct. Reported in 61 counties.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

EA: 20 Aug, LCal (JDC); 23 Aug, FSHW(AWS). **MC**: 216, FSHW, 13 Oct (AWS); 154, IBHW, 15 Oct (JSw). Reported in 48 counties.

Cooper's Hawk

MC: 15, IBHW, 14 Oct (PWS, JSw); 14, FSHW, 19 Sep (AWS). Reported in 67 counties.

Northern Goshawk

EA: 10 Oct, IBHW(PWS,JSw); 22 Oct, GVHW (VS). **Others:** IBHW,

1 Nov; IBHW, 20 Nov (JLs, AFS, JRRS); GVHW, 30 Oct (VS, DKl); GVHW, 7 Nov; Lake Sule (Ogle Co), 13 Nov (DHh). 7 Reports in 4 counties.

Red-shouldered Hawk

MC: 16, Oakwood Bottoms--Big Muddy Levee Rd (Jackson Co), 20 Aug (HDr); 10, IBHW, 20 Nov; 6, GVHW, 6 Nov. Reported in 44 counties.

Broad-winged Hawk

MC: 156, GVHW, 14 Sep; 110, MoraineHills, 20 Sep (SI, m.obs.). **LD**: 7 Nov, *Edwards* (RES). Several "kettling" flights detected. Reported in 30 counties.

Swainson's Hawk

McHenry (juv.), 23 Aug, (KML). The only report.

Red-tailed Hawk

MC: 409, IBHW, 7 Nov (PWS, VOB, m. obs.); 134, IBHW, 1 Nov (KML, m.obs.); 114, IBHW, 6 Nov (JRRS, m.obs.). Reported in 86 counties.

Rough-legged Hawk

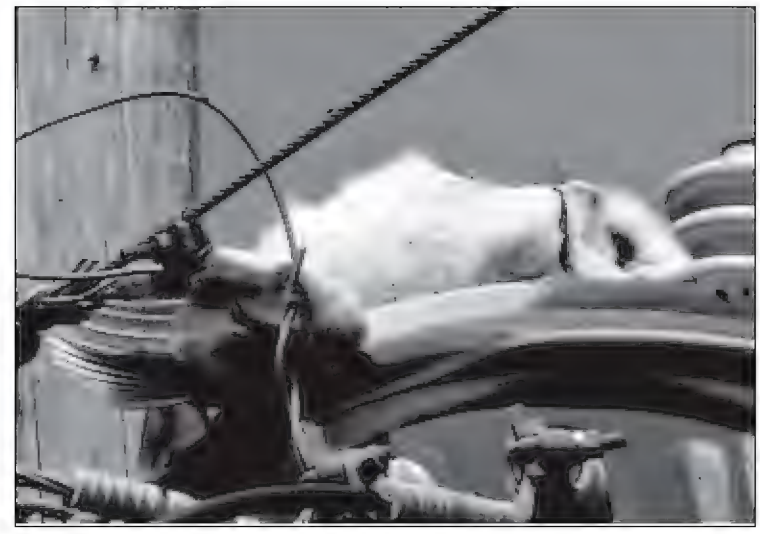
EA: 12 Oct, Emiquon (JGd); 13 Oct, FSHW (FRM:ph). **MC**: 8, IBHW, 13 Nov (JRRS, VOB, PWS, JRG, KKn, MR); 8, FSHW, 22 Nov (AWS). Reported in 24 counties.

Golden Eagle

EA: 16 Oct, IBHW(imm) (JRRS, PSW, EWW); 18 Oct, GVHW (JAS). **MC**: 2 imm., LincPk, 29 Oct (SJH). **Others:** Streamwood, 30 Oct (JCn); IBHW (1 imm), 1 Nov (PWS); IBHW (2 imm.), 7 Nov (PWS, m.ob.); IBHW, 20 Nov (PWS); GVHW, 14 Nov; GVHW(2), 20 Nov DKl:ph); FSHW, 20 Nov (DRD); 22 Nov, GVHW(ad) (VS, JAS); Steward (Lee Co), 22 Nov (KSy); *Coles* (ad.), 13 Nov (EBa:ph,TDF); BigL (imm) (Brown Co), 8 Nov (CDn); Hidden Springs SF - Prairie Area (imm.) (Shelby Co), 29 Nov (EBa). Reported in 9 counties. Well represented this fall.

Barn Owl

LD: 7 Nov, LincolnPk, being chased by Peregrine Falcons and crows, (SJH:ph, JCn:ph). Aug- Oct reports in *Monroe, Edwards, Johnson, Marion* were of juveniles and nesting owls benefiting from nest boxes. **Others**: Champaign (Champaign Co), 29 Nov (GSL:ph); two found dead on a road in Sharpsburg (Christian Co), 7 Sep (VMK).



Dead Barn Owl.
Edwards County. 3 August 2015.
Photo by Bob Shelby.

Eastern Screech-Owl

MC: 6, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn); 4, CarlL-C, 18 Oct (DMK). Reported in 29 counties.

Great Horned Owl

MC: 5, Elsen Hill, 20 Sep (PAM); 5, Winfield (DuPage Co), 26 Sep (PAM). Reported in 44 counties.

Snowy Owl

EA: 20 Oct, *Will* (CGn); 20-21 Oct, Tonica (LaSalle Co) (JPa:ph); 25 Oct, I-70 MM124-125 (Cumberland Co) (DSt); 30 Oct, Bierman Pk (DuPage Co) (LC); 30 Oct, O'Hare Intl Airport (Cook & DuPage Cos) (*fide* GM); 1 Nov, *Marshall* (MS); 8-15 Nov, Pontiac (Livingston Co) (GTo, BMy, DHh, m.ob.), actually found earlier than the 8th. **Others**: S of Gurler Rd (DeKalb Co), 16-20 Nov (PLn, KML); Huber Pkwy, N of Hwy 38 & W of NIU (DeKalb Co), 28 Nov- 27 Dec (BL, KML, UWG, JVt, AM:ph, m.ob.); S of Melms Rd appox 1 mi. E of Genoa/Belvidere Rd (DeKalb Co), 28 Nov (KML, BL); W of Brooklyn Rd & S of Elva (Lee Co), 18 Nov – 29 Dec (KML, KSy, DTW, again on 3 Jan 2016 (PAM, LCa) and 5 Jan 2016, EFf:ph); WWPowers/Wolf L, 12600 Ave O, Chic, 29 Nov (DG); CR2500E less than 2 mi. W of Homer (Champaign Co), 30 Nov-2 Dec (*fide* SDB, RBs,TC, DSw); Manteno (Kankakee Co), 28 Nov (*fide* GR, JBH). Very early arrivals this season.

Burrowing Owl.
LaSalle County. 20 October 2015.
Photo by Don Coons.

BURROWING OWL

Groveland Twp (LaSalle Co), 19-20 Oct (DCs:ph). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Barred Owl

MC: 11, SRSF, 1 Nov (TW, CLe, CDn). Reported in 56 counties.

Long-eared Owl

EA: 14-26 Nov, Montrose (TBL, DFS, m.obs.). The only report.

Short-eared Owl

EA: 9 Oct, IBHW (PWS); 12 Oct, Montrose (FRM, LGM, AT); 13 Oct, RollinsSav (BJS); 2 Nov Sangchris (HDB). **MC**: 10, Elmwood, Foster Rd (Peoria Co), 29 Nov (DHh); 4, Killdeer (Tinley Crk) Wetlands (Cook Co), 14 Nov (SZ); 4, 1800N and 1300E (Coles Co), 6 Nov (TDF). Reported in 11 counties.

Snowy Owl.
DeKalb County. 29 November 2015.
Photo by Urs Geiser.

Red-headed Woodpecker young.
Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve. Lake County.
2 August 2015. Photo by Don Darnell.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

EA: 26 Sep, SandRidge (CDn, CLe); 15 Oct, IBSP-S (EWW). **MC**: 24, SBBO, 16 Oct (*fide* JCL); 10, SBBO, 17 Oct (JCL). Reported in 5 counties.

Belted Kingfisher

MC: 10, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 26 Sep (BDy); 6, Keystone Rd (McHenry Co), 15 Aug (AC). Reported in 75 counties.

Red-headed Woodpecker

EA: 7 Sep, Ronan Pk, Chi (ASA). **MC**: 22, Beaver Dam SP (Macoupin Co), 7 Nov (CKo); 20, Lincoln Trail SP, 4 Oct (V & GT). Reported 75 counties.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

MC: 24, Salt Creek (Logan Co), 7 Nov (MP); 21, Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co), 20 Aug (HDr); 20, IBSP-S, 14 Oct (EWW). Reported in 95 counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

EA: 6 Sep, Chi CBCM; 12 Sep, Ft. Sheridan FP (TK); 13 Sep, Jarvis (JIE, ASr). **MC**: 12, Dixon WR, 10 Oct (JRRS, LJK, CGi, GEN); 10, LPBW, 7 Oct (GAW). Reported in 53 counties.

Downy Woodpecker

MC: 20, Dixon WR, 29 Nov (DFS); 17, Pratt'sWW, 24 Nov (KW). Reported in 88 counties.

Hairy Woodpecker

MC: 11, BRSF, 7 Nov (EWW). Reported in 76 counties.

Northern Flicker

MC: 46, NoP, 12 Sep (SJH); 34, Rosehill Cem, Chic, 9 Oct (MCD). Reported in 75 counties.

Pileated Woodpecker

MC: 8, Dixon WR, 29 Nov (DFS); 5, TwoRivers, 10 Oct (WCR, PL). Reported in 61 counties.

American Kestrel

MC: 13, LostMound, 16 Aug (EB); 13, *Edwards*, 26 Nov (RES). Reported in 78 counties.

Merlin

EA: 29 Aug, WaterfallGlen (LBR); 3 Sep, IBSP-S (AFS, PWS). **MC**: 104 IBHW, 15 Oct (RDJ, JK); 103, FSHW, 12 Oct (AWS, VOB). Several reports continuing into winter. Reported in 34 counties.

Peregrine Falcon

MC: 27, GVHW, 29 Sep (VS); 26, IBHW, 20 Sep (JRRS, PWS). Reported in 37 counties.

PRAIRIE FALCON

EA: 8-28 Nov+ (2), *Coles* (TDF:ph, m.obs.), also reported in *Douglas* on 22 Nov(2). The only fall report of a pair at a traditional wintering location.

Monk Parakeet

MC: 40, Cricket Creek FP (DuPage Co), 19 Sep (A & RSn); 20, *Cook,* I-57, 19 Nov (DU). Reported in 2 counties.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

EA: 8 Aug, Eggers Grove FP (Cook Co.) (SBB); 8 Aug, Cantigny Pk (DuPage Co) (KW). **MC**: 3, SBBO, 29 Aug (JCL); 2, GlacialPk, 16 Aug (EP); 2, Jerome Huppert Wds (Cook Co), 25 Aug (KW); 2, NPBW, 26 Aug (GAW); 2, Whiskey Creek (DuPage Co), 27 Aug (SK). **LD**: 26 Sept, Evergreen L, Comlara Pk (McLean Co) (DWh); 26 Sep, Spfld (HDB). Reported in 23 counties.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

MC: 18, CarlL-C, 2 Sep (KAM); 18, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn). **LD**: 18 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK:ph). Reported in 81 counties.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

EA: 24 Jul, Red Hill SP (Lawrence Co) (CLH); 1 Aug, IBSP-N (BJS). **MC**: 2, Montrose, 21 Aug (GAW); 2, SBBO, 22 Aug (JCL). **LD**: 4 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK). Reported in 23 counties

Acadian Flycatcher

MC: 17, PineHills, 6 Aug (NSy, SBn); 11, LMurphy SP, 18 Aug (HDr). **LD**: 29 Sep, CarlL-C (JT). Reported in 22 counties.

Alder Flycatcher

EA: 10 Aug, Carpenter Pk, Sang (HDB); 22 Aug, Linc Pk (SJH). **MC**: 2, Sang, 6 Sep (HDB); 2, GlacialPk, 16 Sep (APh). **LD**: 28 Sep, Fermi (RSt, KLl); 21 Sep, Carpenter Pk, Sang (HDB). Reported in 9 counties.

Monk Parakeet.
Jackson Park,
Chicago. Cook County.
14 November 2015.
Photo by Richard Bisbee.

Bell's Vireo.
South Shore State Park.
Clinton County. 30 August 2015.
Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Willow Flycatcher

MC: 7, McDowell Grove FP, 10 Aug (PAM); 7, Burnidge FP, 8 Aug (JWn). **LD**: 22 Sep, Montrose (AT). Reported in 17 counties.

Least Flycatcher

EA: 12-27(2) Jul, Montrose (ASA, LGM); 31 Jul, Lick Creek, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 5, Burnidge FP, 23 Aug (JWn).. **LD**: 5-9 Dec, latest date ever for Sang, LSpfld (HDB); 12 Oct, Openlands Lakeshore Preserve (Lake Co) (SKl). Reported in 30 counties.

Eastern Phoebe

MC: 13, Midewin, 21 Sept (JnG). **LD**: 29 Nov, Gorham-SNF (Jackson Co) (DMn); 24 Nov, Evanston (MS). Reported in 79 counties.

Great Crested Flycatcher

MC: 9, Elsens Hill, 7 Aug (PAM). **LD**: 26 Sep, Elsens Hill (PAM). Reported in 42 counties.

Western Kingbird

LincPk(2), 2 Sep (GAW); Broadlands (Champaign Co), 6 Sep (DSm). **LD**: 8 Oct, IBHW (PWS:ph, JSt, CSl); 15 Sep, Chau (ASA), 7 Sep, 87th St Steel Mills (Cook Co), departure date for Cook Co breeding pair (AG).

Eastern Kingbird

MC: 30, CarlL-C, 30 Aug (DMK); 23, Chau, 23 Aug (PAM); 22, ClintonL, 21 Aug (MEF). **LD**: 8 Oct, Ballard NC (Effingham Co) (BR). Reported in 67 counties.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Scott, 30 Aug (MJB, m.ob).

Loggerhead Shrike

MC: 3, ***Edwards*****, 22 Aug (RES); otherwise reported mostly as singles in 5 other counties including** ***Sangamon*****,** ***St. Clair, Perry, Jackson, and Wayne*****. Very few reports.**

Northern Shrike

EA: 17 Oct, Yorkville (*Kendall Co)* (RJ, JV); 17-18 Oct, IBHW (PSW, JR). **MC**: 3, IBHW, 26 Oct (PWS, JSt). **Others:** LostMound, 15 Nov (ENSBC, DBJ); Merritt Prairie FP (DeKalb Co), 29 Nov (TB); MoraineHills, 26 Nov (AJ); RollinsSav, 25-28 Nov (BJS, SMz); CrabtreeNC (Cook Co), 6 Nov (MD); Baker'sL, 23 Nov (C & CF); Bluff Spring Fen (Cook Co), 7 Nov (MMg); Fermi, 25-30 Oct (PAM, m.obs.); Springbrk, 22 Nov (PCd); Midewin, 28 Nov (DZ). Reported in 8 counties.

White-eyed Vireo

MC: 10, Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co), 20 Aug (HDr). **LD**: 14 Nov, LLCC, Sang (VMK:ph, JMq); 6 Nov, LaBagh Wds FP (JRRS:ph, LJK, LGM) originally found on 4 Nov; 6 Nov, Montrose (PK:ph). Reported in 32 counties.

Bell's Vireo

EA: 30 Aug(2), Cal MWRP (WJM, m.obs.). **MC**: 5, Sang, 1 Aug (HDB); 4, Peabody River King State Fish and Wildlife Area, 9 Sep (KH); 4, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 20 Aug (JT); 3, Aurora West FP, 6 Aug (JNn, m.obs.); 3, Banner M, 31 Aug-9 Sep (EC); 3, CarlL-C, 30 Aug (DMK). **LD**: 24 Sep, Crystal L Pk (Champaign Co) (DSn). **Others:** IBHW, 6 Sep (PWS, KML). Reported in 22 counties.

Yellow-throated Vireo

MC: 8, MissPalis, 3 Sep (JSA) 7, COLSP, 5 Sep (BJS); 5, WaterfallGlen (JnG); 5, Fox Ridge SP (Coles Co), 24 Sep (TDF). **LD**: 10 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK); 9 Oct, *Madison*, 9 Oct (DWb). Reported in 43 counties.

Blue-headed Vireo

EA: 21 Aug, GlacialPk (DC); 27 Aug, Chic (NT). **MC**: 4, CarlL-C, 10 & 17 Oct (DMK:ph). **LD**: 7 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 4 Nov, Oak Ridge Cem, Sang (HDB); 4 Nov, Edwardsville (Madison Co) (DLy). Reported in 32 counties.

Philadelphia Vireo

EA: 15 Aug, Montrose (MMC); 17 Aug, Woodford Co CA (TH). **MC**: 6, Moraine Hills SP--McHenry Dam, 30 Sep (TK). **LD**: 12 Oct, Montrose (BB); 10 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 10 Oct, SRSF (CDn). Reported in 33 counties.

Warbling Vireo

MC: 16, CarlL-C, 7 Sep (DMK:ph); 9, Burnham Pk, 22 Aug (GAW, COS); 9, Sang, 5 Sep, (HDB). **LD**: 30 Sep, CarlL-C (KAM); 28 Sep, IL & MI Canal Trail--Lock 14 area (LaSalle Co) (TBn). Reported in 51 counties.

Red-eyed Vireo

MC: 18, Wright Woods & Half Day FP, 4 Sep (AR); 18, 5 Sep, SBBO (JCL). **LD**: 26 Oct, Spenser Pk (Boone Co) (EES); 24 Oct, SBBO (JCL). Reported in 56 counties.

Blue Jay

EA: 3 Sep, Sang (HDB**). MC**: 200, CarlL-C, 18 Oct (DMK); 60, Spring Creek FP (Cook Co), 21 Sep (WP); 60, Burnidge FP, 20 Oct (JWn). Reported in 94 counties.

American Crow

MC: 350, LSpfld, 25 Nov (JGa); 300, LShel, 9 Oct (RBy); 300, Riverplex Sandbar (Tazewell Co) (PF). Reported in 91 counties.

Fish Crow

MC: 66, Peabody River King State FWA (St. Clair Co), 23 Sep (KH); 30, Miller City Rd (Alexander Co), 6 Aug (NSy, SBn). **LD**: 25 Oct, Carbondale (Jackson Co) (DMn). Reported in 18 counties.

Horned Lark

MC: 350, Arcola (Coles Co), 22 Nov (CG); 200, CarlL-C, 28 Nov (DMK); 150, 2000N & 1900E (Livingston Co), 15 Nov (WH) Reported in 58 counties.

Purple Martin

MC: 600, BannerM (Peoria Co), 7 Aug (EC); 370, Lake Rawson (Bureau Co), 7 Sep (DFS); 170, Bruce WMA (Moultrie Co), 21 Aug (CLe). **LD**: 4 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 20 Sep(2), Jon J. Duerr FP (Kane Co) (JLg). Reported in 44 counties.

Tree Swallow

MC: 120,000, CarlL-C, 13 Oct (DMK); 1300, Dixon WR, 10 Oct (JRRS, GEN, LJK, CGi). **LD**: 3 Dec, latest ever for Sang, SangchrisDam (juv.) Sang (HDB); 16 Nov, EForkL (2) (CLH); 14 Nov, RendL-F (JLa). Reported in 79 counties.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

MC: 1053, Chau, 25 Aug (PAM); 650 KankakeePks, 12 Sep (JBH); 560, Lake Rawson (Bureau Co), 21 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 30 Nov+, LCharleston (Coles Co) (RBy:ph); 20 Nov, Oswego (Kendall Co) (JV). Reported in 62 counties.

Bank Swallow

MC: 1500, Chau, 22 Aug (KAM); 800, GlacialPk, 6 Aug (KML). **LD**: 7 Oct, EPSP (DHh); 30 Sep, CarlL-C (KAM). Reported in 35 counties.

Cliff Swallow

MC: 400, 12-13 Sep, CarlL-C (DMK); 245, EPSP, 4 Sep (TH). **LD**: 17 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK); 10 Oct, Emiquon (CDn); 10 Oct(10), L & D #13 (EWW); 9 Oct (52), TwoRivers (EWW). Reported in 58 counties.

CAVE SWALLOW

IBHW(2), 7 Nov (PWS, BL:ph, m.ob.); IBHW, 20 Nov (PWS, GEN:ph, AOS, JPL, JLs); IBSP-S, 20 Nov (NCl:ph, AFS). See details in IORC report in this issue.

Barn Swallow

MC: 8000, CarlL-C, 4 Oct (DMK); 300, SandRidge, 29 Aug (CDn). **LD**: 8 Nov (2), CarlL-C (DMK); 30 Oct, ClintonL (MP). Reported in 78 counties.

Carolina Chickadee

MC: 30, CarlL-C, 20 & 27 Sep (DMK); 24, Sexton Creek Wetlands (Alexander Co), 14 Nov (AGn); 24, Greenspace East Pk (Madison Co), 13 Sep (DLy). **Others:** HomerL(8) (Champaign Co), 7 Nov (DSw). Reported in 34 counties.

Black-capped Chickadee

MC: 45, Dixon WR, 10 Nov (JnG); 42, IBSP-S, 12 Sep (EWW); 40, SandRidge, 10 Oct (CDn). Reported in 59 counties.

Tufted Titmouse

MC: 30, CarlL-C, 27 Sep (DMK); 25, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn). **Others:** Montrose, 2 Oct & 11 & 14 Nov (P & NDn, m.obs.). Reported in 84 counties.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

EA: 23 Aug, Matthiessen SP (MRs); 26 Aug (2), Burnidge FP (Kane Co) (CWg); 30 Aug, Glenwood Woods FP (Cook Co) (EM). **MC**: 8, MArb, 23 Oct (EWW); 8, Veteran's Arces / Sternes Woods (McHenry Co), 17 Oct (EES); 8, Sugar River FP, 17 Oct (ASz). Reported in 25 counties.

Winter Wren. Silver Springs State Park. Kendall County. 29 November 2015. Photo by Urs Geiser.

Golden-crowned Kinglet. Montrose, Chicago. Cook County. 25 October 2015. Photo by Fran Morel..

White-breasted Nuthatch

MC: 21, Dixon WR, 29 Nov (DFS); 18, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn). Reported in 89 counties.

Brown Creeper

EA: 12 Sep(3), IBSP-S (EWW); 12 Sep, NoP (SJH); 12 Sep, Montrose (ASA). **MC**: 14, Calumet Pk (Cook Co), 6 Oct (WJM); 11, GrantPk—Museum Campus, 7 Oct (DEW) Reported in 61 counties.

House Wren

MC: 22, Pleasant Valley CA (McHenry Co), 17 Aug (EP); 22, Elsens Hill, 7 Aug (PAM). **LD**: 25 Oct, Burham Pk McCormick Nature Area (Cook Co) (DFS); 23 Oct, No Name Pk (Madison Co) (BSf). Reported in 57 counties.

Winter Wren

EA: 13 Sep, LincPk, NoP & Montrose (JIE, JIN, ASA). **MC**: 9, LincPk, 24 Oct (SJH); 8, LaBagh Wds FP (Cook Co), 3 Oct (JHn); 7, BuseyWds, Oct 25 (RDs). Reported in 38 counties.

Sedge Wren

MC: 12, DYNL, 10 Aug (JNn); 11, Burnidge FP (Kane Co) (JWn). **LD**: 5 Nov (2), Burnidge FP (Kane Co) (JWn). Reported in 33 counties.

Marsh Wren

MC: 9, Normantown Wetlands (Will Co), 3 Aug (JnG); 8, RollinsSav, 26 Sep (AOS, BJS). **LD**: 15 Nov, BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH); 14 Nov, RollinsSav (BJS). Reported in 32 counties.

Carolina Wren

MC: 12, CarlL-C, 2 Sep (KAM); 10, SandRidge, 10 Oct (CDn); 10, CarlL-C, 5 & 29 Aug (DMK); 10, UCCA, 22 Sep (JGd). **Others**: RockCut, 15 Oct (JNe); Columbus Pk, Chi, 21 Sep (JEt); Oak Park, Chi, 10 Aug (EDG). Reported in 73 counties.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

MC: 30, CarlL-C, 22 & 29 Aug (DMK); 21, Oakwood Bottoms--Big Muddy Levee Rd, 20 Aug (HDr). **LD**: 25 Oct, Muirhead Springs FP (Kane Co) (WLz). Reported in 56 counties.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

EA: 11, Cook (S & DD); 12 Sep, Montrose (ASA). **MC**: 60, Burnham Pk, 6 Oct (DFS); 59, JP, 2 Oct (RDS). Reported in 70 counties.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

EA: 25 Aug, Evanston (Cook Co) (RJD); 6 Sep, StarvedRock (C & JY). **MC**: 120, CarlL-C, 18 Oct (DMK:ph). Reported in 64 counties.

Eastern Bluebird

MC: 36, IBHW, 21 Oct (JSw, JLs); 30, GVHW, 1 Nov (JAS); 23, 27 Oct, Sang (HDB). Reported in 83 counties.

Townsend's Solitaire

Crabtree, 7 Nov (ASn).

Veery

EA: 15 Aug, BemisWds FP—No. (DFS); 22 Aug, NoP (SJH); 25 Aug, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 6, CBG, 3 Sep (AR); 4, LLCC, 9 Sep (JMq, HDB). **LD**: 7 Oct, Ryerson CA, (JRS); 7 Oct, Montrose (DKA). Reported in 18 counties.

Gray-cheeked Thrush

EA: 29 Aug, SBBO (JCL); 30 Aug, Montrose (GAW); 2 Sep, EwingP (SAu); 4 Sep, LLCC (TR) **MC**: 25, SBBO 19 Sep (*fide* JCL); 10, JP (RLS). **LD**: 23 Oct, NoP (JIN). Reported in 30 counties.

Swainson's Thrush

EA: 9 Aug, Bemis Woods (Cook Co) (DFS); 29 Aug, CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 90, Burnham Pk, 8 Sep (JIE, DFS); 90, Calumet Pk, Chi, 11 Sep (ASA); 51, SBBO, 12 Sep (JCL); 50 IBHW, 30 Aug (PWS, JSw, KML). **LD**: 7 & 15 Nov, Chi (CBCM); 22 Oct, NorthernI (DFS); 21 Oct LyonsWds FP (Lake Co) (A & WMC). Reported in 50 counties.

Hermit Thrush. South Shore State Park. Clinton County. 25 October 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Varied Thrush. St. Charles. Kane County. 30 November 2015. Photo by Rich Miller.

Hermit Thrush

EA: 16 Sep, Old School FP (Lake Co) (RSt); 16 Sep, River Pk (Cook Co) (SPh). **MC**: 132, Grant Pk, Chi, 7 Oct (DFS); 69, SBBO, 10 Oct (JCL). Reported in 51 counties.

Wood Thrush

MC: 3 Beecher (Will Co), 4 Sep (KP); 3, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn); 3, *Monroe*, 27 Sep (C & PDh). **LD**: 4 Nov, Carpentersville (Kane Co) (OB); 17 Oct, Meredosia (Morgan Co) (CDn, CLe); 13 Oct, Harvester Pk, Burr Ridge (DuPage Co) (LP). Reported in 30 counties.

American Robin

MC: 1930, Calhoun County Fruit Orchard, 6 Nov (EWW); 1898, No. Shore Channel, Skokie (Cook Co), 28 Sep (RJD); 1750, SkokieLagoons (Cook Co), 4 Nov (JRS); 1671, IBSP-N, 12 Oct (PWS, JSw); 900, *Morgan*, 15 Oct (CDn). Reported in 94 counties.

Varied Thrush

St. Charles (Kane Co), 27 Nov-4 Dec (JLg, MMr, RM:ph, m.ob.).

Gray Catbird

MC: 54, Burnidge FP (Kane Co), 30 Aug (JWn); 38, RockCut, 9 Sep (JCL). **LD**: 23 Nov, Lake Shore East Pk, Chic (LR:ph); 20 Nov, Olive Pk, Chic (JIE). Reported in 71 counties.

Brown Thrasher

MC: 6, Greenspace East Pk (Madison Co), 29 Sep (DLy); 6, Oakhurst FP (Kane Co), 30 Aug (WSr). **LD**: 25 Nov, Grant Pk — Museum Campus, Chic (DFS); 22 Nov, Burnham Prairie NP (Cook Co) (WJM); 20 Nov, Baker'sL (C & CF). Reported in 54 counties.

Northern Mockingbird

MC: 8, Greenspace East Pk, 13 Sep (DLy); 6, Campus Lk (Jackson Co), 16 Sep (RG); 5, *Mason*, 7 Sep (CLe); 5, *Monroe*, 25 Sep (C & PDh). Reported in 34 counties.

European Starling

MC: 10000, *Morgan,* 19 Nov (CDn); 4000, CarlL-C, 15 Nov (DMK); 6750, LCal--126th St Marsh/Hyde Lk Wetlands, 15 Nov (WJM). Reported in 93 counties.

Cedar Waxwing

MC: 3190, Burnham Pk--McCormick NA, Chi 8 Sep (JIE, DFS et al.); 1235, Wauk, 7 Sep (EWW). Reported in 72 counties.

House Sparrow

MC: 250, Tazewell, 28 Nov (CDn); 200, No. Shore Channel (Cook Co), 10 Sep (RJD). Reported in 85 counties.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

MC: 125, Spunky Bottoms (Brown Co), 8 Nov (CDn); 100, L Jacksonville (Morgan Co), 21 Oct (CDn); 95, Calhoun County Fruit Orchard (Calhoun Co), 6 Nov (EWW). **Others**: *Kendall,* 18 Oct (SJ); L&D 13 (18), 14 Nov (ASt, DBJ, m.obs.); *Woodford*, 11 Oct (TH, DHr); Essex, 1050 E Rd (Stark Co), 14 Sep (DHh); Salt Creek Area (Logan) (22), 7 Nov (MP). Reported in 26 counties.

American Pipit

EA: 4 Sep, Emiquon (AGt); 6 Sep, NPM (EWW); 20 Sep, CarlL-F (DMK). **MC**: 225, LShel, 6 Nov (TDF, TAM); 130, Settler's Court ponds (Kane Co), 10 Oct (DFS); 115, Dunteman Sod Farm, Kaneville (Kane Co), 30 Sep (CGi); 80, CarlL-C, 22 Nov (DMK); 80, *Iroquois* 26 Oct (JBH); 72, Montrose, 4 Oct (GAW). **LD**: 29 Nov, IBHW (PWS); 29 Nov, GVHW (JAS). Reported in 41 counties.

Pine Siskin. Jolliff Bridge Road. Clinton County. 25 October 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

House Finch

MC: 734, IBSP-S, 12 Oct (EWW); 114, Queen of Heaven Cem (Cook Co), 27 Sep (DFS). Reported in 68 counties.

Purple Finch

EA: 21 Aug, Montrose (DKA). **MC**: 18, IBSP-S, 22 Oct (EWW); 18, Elsens Hill, 6 Nov (PAM). Reported in 43 counties.

Common Redpoll

EA: 7 Nov, Deer Grove FP West (ASz); 12 Nov, Mundelein (Lake Co) (MT); 13 Nov, Montrose (GAW); 14 Nov *Livingston* (DHh). **MC**: 85, CBG, 18 Nov (MG). **Others**: NPM (70), 29 Nov (EE); Shabbona Lake SP (DeKalb Co) (30), 29 Nov (TB); Afton Forest Preserve (DeKalb Co) (30), 29 Nov (TB); EPSP (1-2), 14-15 Nov (TH, BMy, m.obs.); *Livingston* (2), 18 Nov (DHh). Good migratory numbers but largely reported from northeastern Illinois. Reported in 10 counties with *Woodford* and *Livingston* being the farthest south.

Red Crossbill

EA: 24 Oct, Centennial Pk, Sang (CLe); 25 Oct (5), Steger (Cook & Will Cos) (SZ); 25 Oct (8), Foss Park GC, No. Chicago (Lake Co) (EL). **Others:** Fox River Trail (Kendall Co), 2 Nov (JV); Lake Villa (Lake Co) (3), 20 Nov (RAB); FSHW, 22 Nov (AWS); Lakewood FP (Lake Co) (2), 27 Nov (BJS); JP, 19 Nov (LM); MArb(3), 28 Nov (PAM); Chau (5), 14 Nov (CDn, TW). Reported in 6 counties.

Pine Siskin

EA: DuPage, 3-5 Aug (VM) and at Cantigny Prk, Wheaton (DuPage Co), 8 Aug (JC, GP, KW, et al.) earliest on record for Illinois; 20 Sep (3), McDonald Woods FP (BJS); difficult to assess fall arrivals due to summer breeding. **MC**: 3178, IBHW, 2 Oct (JRRS, PWS); 177, MArb, 23 Oct (EWW); 60, CarlL-C, 25 Oct (DMK:ph). Reported in 46 counties.

American Goldfinch

MC: 400, CarlL-C, 29 Nov (DMK); 380, IBHW, 1 Oct (JSw, JLs); 250, Settler's Court ponds (Kane Co), 5 Oct (MS); 205, Dixon WR, 12 Oct (DFS). Reported in 89 counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow. Bailey Wetland. Wayne and Richland Counties. 28 September 2015. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Lapland Longspur

EA: 13 Sep, NPM, (EWW), 20 Sep, GVHW (JAS, VS). **MC**: 800, CarlL, 28 Nov (DMK); 550, *Iroquois*, 16 Nov (JBH); 300, Swanson Rd (DeKalb Co), 31 Oct (NB); 275, 1200E between 1700 & 1800N (Coles Co), 14 Nov (TDF). Reported in 36 counties.

Smith's Longspur

Sandridge Rd (Carroll Co) (1-6), 9-15 Nov (CKe, OK, EB, DBJ, ASt, m.ob.).

Snow Bunting

EA: 24 Oct (3), NPM (NCl); 25 Oct, Montrose (FRM:ph, m.obs.). **MC**: 140, FSHW, 14 Nov (FRM, TBL, AWS); 95, Park No. 566, Chi, 23 Nov (CGi). **Others:** Sandridge Rd (Carroll Co) (3), 14-15 Nov (ENSBC, DBJ, EB, EWW, m.obs.); Arcola Twp, 1101-1199 E Co Rd 700 N (Coles Co) (10), 22 Nov (CGi); E of Cisne (Wayne Co), 22 Nov (RES;CLH). Reported in 16 counties.

Spotted Towhee

EA: 23 Oct (female), west Lake Dr, Spfld, Sang (HDB); 16 Oct, Greene Valley FP (REF).

Eastern Towhee

MC: 20, Oakwood Bottoms--Big Muddy Levee Rd (Jackson Co), 20 Aug (HDr); 12, SandRidge, 29 Aug & 10 Oct (CDn); 11, Charleston STF (Coles Co), 21 Aug (V & GT); 10, Burnidge FP, 27 Sep (JW); 10, CarlL-C, 26-27 Sep (DMK). **LD:** 29 Nov (2), Dixon WR (DFS); 29 Nov, CarlL-C (DMK). Reported in 68 counties.

American Tree Sparrow

EA: 6 Oct, Montrose (SAm) & Crabtree (B & OB). **MC**: 210, Dixon WR, 29 Nov (DFS); 200, Orland Grassland (Cook Co), 20 Nov (MMe); 120, Muirhead Springs FP (Kane Co), 21 Nov (JWn). Reported in 49 counties.

Chipping Sparrow

MC: 400+, Rueben Aldeen Pk (Winnebago Co), 15 Oct (KML); 50, SandRidge, 10 Oct (CDn). **LD**: 29 Nov (2), CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 29 Nov, Beall Wds SP (Wabash Co) (CLH:ph); 22 Nov(3), Oak Ridge Cem, Sang (CLe); 21 Nov, Olney (Richland Co) (CLH:ph). Reported in 73 counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow

EA: 9 Sep, Greene Valley FP (DBC, MAM); 11 Sep, Montrose (LGM); 11 Sep, JP (RDS). **MC**: 3, Rainbow Beach, Chi, 3 Oct (GAW, CLW, MDw). **LD**: 26 Nov, NoP (SJH:ph); 6 Nov, Hunter Lk area, Sang (HDB). **Others**: BaileyWet (Wayne Co), 28 Sep (CLH). Reported in 13 counties.

Field Sparrow

MC: 29, Midewin, 16 Sep (JnG); 25, Springbrook Prairie FP, 26 Sep (HDe); 25, GLPSNA, 23 Aug (JLc) **LD**: 29 Nov, CONWR (JZn); Nov 29, Carbondale Reservoir (Jackson Co) (DMn). Reported in 67 counties.

Vesper Sparrow

MC: 5, Flanagan WTP (Livingston Co), 7 Oct (DHh); 5, Coles, 23 Oct (TDF); 5, EPSP, 7 Oct (JP). **LD**: 28 Nov (3), Meadowbrook Pk, Urbana (O & BB). Reported in 35 counties.

Lark Sparrow

EA: 3 Sep, Montrose (RJD). **MC**: 20, UMRNWR, 16 Aug (EB). **LD**: 7 Oct, EPSP (DHh). Reported in 7 counties.

Savannah Sparrow

MC: 50, Mauvaise Terre L--Dredging Ponds, 14 Nov (CDn, TW). **LD**: 28 Nov, Midewin (DZ); 26 Nov, *Wayne* (RES). Reported in 46 counties.

Grasshopper Sparrow

MC: 6, Pingree Grove FP (Kane Co), 16 Aug (SG). **LD**: 7 Oct, EPSP (DHh). **Others**: SBBO (2), 22 Aug (JCL); Mineral Marsh NP (Henry Co) (2), 13 Sep (SHr). Reported in 17 counties.

Henslow's Sparrow

MC: 11, Burnidge FP (Kane Co), 5 Aug (JWn); 6, GLPSNA, 4 Aug, (VS). **LD**: 30 Oct, KankakeePks (MH); 18 Oct, Hutton, N Co Rd 2200 E (Coles Co) (TDF). **Others:** SBBO, 18 Oct (JCL); Elmwood, Foster Rd (Peoria Co) (2); 15 Aug (DHh). Reported in 18 counties.

LeConte's Sparrow

EA: 24 Aug, Grant Pk, Chi--Museum Campus (DEW). **MC**: 10, Mauvaise Terre Lake--Dredging Ponds (Morgan Co), 17 Oct (CDn, TW). **LD**: 20 Nov, Hidden L FP (DuPage Co) (DFS); 20 Nov, Ark (Perry Co) (DMn); 8 Nov, GLPSNA (JLc:ph); 8 Nov, Burnidge FP (Kane Co) (EWW); 3 Nov, Montrose (RDH). Reported in 15 counties.

Nelson's Sparrow

EA: 14 Sep, BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH:ph); 15 Sep, Miller Meadows FP (Cook Co) (JSA, DAa). **MC**: 4, Emiquon, 14 Sep (AGt); 3, RollinsSav, 8 Oct (AOS); 3, Montrose, 7 Oct (ASA). **LD**: 28 Oct, Whalon Lake FP (Will Co) (JnG). Reported in 14 counties.

Fox Sparrow

EA: 22 Sep, Oakhurst FP (Kane Co.) (PAM); 24 Sep (2), Elsens Hill (PAM); 3 Oct (2), The Grove, Glenview (Cook Co) (ASz). **MC**: 42, MArb, 23 Oct (EWW); 25, Thatcher Wds (Cook Co), 30 Oct (JAS, JHt). Reported in 48 counties.

Song Sparrow

MC: 100, Mauvaise Terre L--Dredging Ponds (Morgan Co), 23 Oct (CDn); 52, Sexton Creek Wetlands (Alexander Co), 14 Nov (AGn). Reported in 81 counties.

Lincoln's Sparrow

EA: 30 Aug, Bemis Woods FP--South (Cook Co) (DFS); 4 Sep, BuseyWds (ATS, OP). **MC**: 15, Mauvaise Terre L--Dredging Ponds (Morgan Co), 23 Oct (CDn); 14, Park No. 566, Chi 23 Sep CGi); 14, Burnham Prairie NP, Chi 6 Oct (WJM). **LD**: 9 Nov, JP (PRC). Reported in 48 counties.

Swamp Sparrow

EA: 27 Aug, Rainbow Beach (CGi); 30 Aug, Montrose (CGi); 20 Sep, CP, Sang (HDB); 20 Sep, CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 84, Sexton Creek Wetlands (Alexander Co), 14 Nov (AGn); 75, Rock Island Trail -- Kickapoo Creek Campground (Peoria Co), 1 Nov (EC). Reported in 55 counties.

White-throated Sparrow

EA: 18 Aug, Chi (LR). **MC**: 250, Grant Pk, Museum Campus, 10 Oct (GG); 234, NoP, 30 Sep (NPBW, GAW). Reported in 73 counties.

Harris's Sparrow

EA: 30 Sep (imm), Douglas Pk (EDG). **LD**: 18 Oct-27 Nov, LincPk-NP (GAW:ph, TWf, JIN). **Others**: GrantPk, Museum Campus, 15 Oct (DEW); Gillson, 16 Oct, (JRS); MiddleforkSav (Lake Co), 18 Oct (JRS, m.obs.); Whalon L (Will Co),16-18 Oct, (JG, M.Obs.); *Kendall*, 17 Oct (RJ); Lincoln Pk, Marovitz GC(ad), 17 Oct (LGM:ph); Lincoln Pk, Marovitz GC(imm), 18-21 Oct (ASA:ph; MMC, AFS, FRM, m.obs.); JWJWFP, 20 Oct (SJH). Reported in 4 counties.

White-crowned Sparrow

EA: 16 Sep, Gillson (SCn). **MC**: 250, Grant Pk, Museum Campus, 10 Oct (GG); 200. Spunky Bottoms (Brown Co), 8 Nov (CDn). Reported in 65 counties.

Dark-eyed Junco

EA: 12 Sep(2), IBSP-S (EWW); 12 Sep, Wauk (BD, AWS, m.obs.). MC: 266, Cal Pk, 16 Oct (WJM); 185, BRSF, 7 Nov (EWW). Reported in 82 counties

Yellow-breasted Chat

EA: 29 Aug, IBHW (PWS); 7 Sep, Montrose (GAW); 7 Sep, NoP (JIN). **LD**: 19 Sep, CarlL-C, Sangchris (E & SWr). Reported in 15 counties.

Yellow-headed Blackbird

EA: 7 Sep, GVHW (VS). **LD**: 15 Sep, Montrose (FRM:ph, LGM:ph). **Others**: GlacialPk, 9 Sep (AP); NoP, 12 Sep (JIN). Reported in 3 counties. Very scarce.

Bobolink

MC: 137, Muirhead Springs FP, 6 Aug (WLz); 88, MomenceSod, 9 Sep (JBH); 65, NelsonL/Dick Young FP (Kane Co), 5 Sep (KCA, TMy); 56, Wauk, 6 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 11 Oct, GreeneVal (JAS). Reported in 26 counties.

Eastern Meadowlark

MC: 42, *Edwards*, 26 Nov (RES); 32, Sang, 3 Oct (CLe); 30, Mineral Marsh NP (Henry Co), 13 Sep (SHr). **LD**: 25 Nov, IBHW (JWs, JLs); 21 Nov (7), Sangchris, Sang (HDB). Reported in 57 counties.

Western Meadowlark

EA: 30 Oct, IBHW (PWS, JLe, JPL, m.obs.). **MC**: 3, UMRNWR, 16 Aug (EB). **LD**: 15 Nov, IBHW (PWS, KML, m.obs.). **Others**: MomenceSod, 6 Sep (LMr); CarlL-C, 8 Nov (DMK). Reported in 4 counties.

Orchard Oriole

MC: 11, L Charleston (Coles Co), 4 Aug (V & GT). **LD**: 6 Sep, Hidden Lakes Trout Farm, Bolingbrook (Will Co) (JnG). Reported in 20 counties.

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE

Oak Park (Cook Co), 14 Oct (JSA:ph). Third accepted state record.

Baltimore Oriole

MC: 9, Elsens Hill 7 Aug (PAM). **LD**: 24 Oct, Fermi (MN, GC). Reported in 49 counties.

Red-winged Blackbird

MC: 30,000, NelsonL/Dick Young FP (Kane Co), 5 Nov (JJD); 10,000, Emiquon, 10 Oct (CDn); 8,200, NW *Iroquois*, 28 Oct (JBH). Reported in 85 counties.

Brown-headed Cowbird

MC: 3300, Carroll Savanna Getz Farm Carroll Co), 10 Oct (EWW); 1800, CarlL-C, 15 Aug (DMK); 1100, MomenceSod, 11 Sep (JBH); 1100, Beecher Rd (Kendall Co), 11 Oct (DFS). Reported in 58 counties.

Rusty Blackbird

EA: 12 Sep, Montrose (ASA:ph, LGM:ph). **MC**: 110, Arispie M (Bureau Co) (MAM); 100, Morgan, 16 Nov (CDn). Reported in 45 counties.

Brewer's Blackbird

EA: 6 Aug (46), Na-Au-Say, 1280-2520 Wheeler Road (Kendall Co) (PAM, GP). **MC**: 60, CarlL-C, 21 Nov (DMK); 46, Na-Au-Say, 1280-2520 Wheeler Road (Kendall Co), 6 Aug (PAM, GP). **LD**: 25 Nov (8), Garrett Twp, 1250-1298 E County Rd 600 N (Douglas Co) (TDF). Reported in 19 counties.

Common Grackle

MC: 15,000, Lake Jacksonville (Morgan Co), 8 Nov (CDn); 5000, Meredosia NWR (Morgan Co), 30 Oct (CDn). Reported in 77 counties.

Ovenbird

EA: 16 Aug, Jarvis (MSm); 21 Aug (6), Montrose (GAW). **MC**: 19, SBBO, 20 Sep (JCL); 12, Ryerson CA, 9 Sep (AR); 10, Crystal Lake Pk, Urbana (Champaign Co), 27 Sep (JBt). **LD**: 23-26 Nov, Woodridge (DuPage Co) (UWG); 14-26 Nov, LincolnPk (JAS, JIN, EG, m.ob.). Reported in 37 counties.

Worm-eating Warbler

TwoRivers, 7 Aug (BSf, CSm); Giant City SP (Jackson Co), 6 Sep (DMn); *Wabash*, 26 Aug (CLH). Only three reports.

Louisiana Waterthrush

EA: 6 Aug, Sangchris, Sang (HDB). **LD**: 19 Aug, Giant City SP (Jackson Co) (HDr). Reported in 3 counties.

Northern Waterthrush

EA: 2 Aug, Lighthouse Beach, Evanston (IOB); 2 Aug, Salt Creek Woods NP (Cook Co) (DFS). **MC**: 12, Columbus Pk, Chi 27 Aug (EDG); 10, DouglasP, Chi 5 Sep (EDG) **LD**: 4 Nov, NPBW (GAW, m.ob.). Reported in 30 counties.

Golden-winged Warbler

EA: 15 Aug, Montrose (GAW, MMC); 18 Aug, Center Pk, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 13, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB); 6, EwingP, 9 Sep (JP). **LD**: 29 Sep, West Ridge NP, Chi (SPh). Reported in 28 counties.

Blue-winged Warbler

EA: 11 Aug, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB); 21 Aug, Montrose (JGo). **MC**: 6, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB); 4, Sinnissippi Park (Whiteside Co), 28 Aug (DTW, PDk). **LD**: 30 Sep, Boone Creek CA (McHenry Co) (APh); 28 Sep, Watershed NC, Edwardsville (Madison Co) (DLy); 21 Sep, Carpenter-Gurgens Pk, Sang (CLe); 20 Sep, CarlL-C (DMK:ph). Reported in 26 counties.

Ovenbird in snow. Woodridge. DuPage County. 23 November 2015. Photo by Urs Geiser.

American Redstart. Montrose, Chicago. Cook County. 7 September 2015. Photo by Wes Serafin.

Black-and-white Warbler

EA: 15 Aug, Montrose (GAW). **MC**: 18, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB); 12, Montrose, 21 Aug (JPi); 11, MArb, 24 Sep (DSr). **LD**: 30 Oct, Thatcher Woods (Cook Co) (JAS, JHt). Reported in 51 counties.

Prothonotary Warbler

EA: 1 Aug, NoP (MSm); 12 Aug, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 4, CarlL-C, 5 Sep (DMK:ph). **LD**: 20 Sep(2), CONWR (JGd); 17 Sep, TwoRivers (DHh). **Others**: SBBO, 22 Aug (JCL); McKinley Woods FP, 22 Aug (JLc). Reported in 14 counties.

Tennessee Warbler

EA: 19 Jul, Montrose (ASA:ph); 31 Jul (2); Red Hill SP (Lawrence Co), 31 Jul (CLH). **MC**: 200, CarL-C, 3 Oct (DMK:ph); 70, Burnham Pk--McCormick NA, 9 Sep (DFS, JIE), 70, Elsens Hill, 22 Sep (PAM); 60, Carlyle Sewage Ponds (Clinton Co), 4 Oct (MSS). **LD**: 5 Dec, Lincoln Pk, Chi--Marovitz Golf Course (LGM:ph); 2 Nov, Montrose (FRM). Reported in 58 counties.

Orange-crowned Warbler

EA: 10 Sep, Minonk (Woodford Co) (TH): 12 Sep, Moraine Hills SP--McHenry Dam (KML,SI). **MC**: 12, Montrose, 17 Oct, (SDF); 12, CarlL-C, 18 Oct (DMK); 9, Queen of Heaven Cem. 18 Oct (DFS); 8, SandRidge 10 Oct (CDn). **LD**: 14 Nov, BurhamPk, 31st St (GAW); 15 Nov, Eva;nston (MMC); 15 Nov, Golf Course Pond, Chi (JIE); 15 Nov, Jarvis (LGM:ph); 15 Nov, arlL-C (DMK); 28 Nov, NoP (AR). Reported in 41 counites.

Nashville Warbler

EA: 7-13 Aug, Jarvis (LGM, ASA); 26 Aug, RSP (HDB). **MC**: 20, Montrose, 17 Sep (JBs, KBu); 20, JP, 15 Sep (RDS); 20, CarlL-C, 4 Oct (DMK:ph). **LD**: 7 Nov, JP (RDS); 5 Nov, Jarvis (LGM); 3 Nov, KankakeePks (JBH:ph); 30 Oct, Fox Ridge SP (Coles Co) (TDF). Reported in 53 counties.

Connecticut Warbler

EA: 22 Aug, MArb (MN, JZ). **MC**: 2, Ryerson CA, 9 Sep (AR); 2, Montrose, 6 Sep (FRM); 2, Burnham Pk, 9 Sep (DFS); 2, LaBagh Wds FP, 9 Sep (LGM). **LD:** 1 Oct (2), Elsens Hill, (V & MM); 1

Oct, The Grove, Glenview (Cook Co) (JRS); 28 Sep, Montrose (ASA:ph). **Others**: Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co); 20 Sep (SHr); Iris Pk (Peoria Co), 9 Sep (EC); BuseyWds (Champaign Co), 11 Sep (GNa). Reported in 13 counties.

Mourning Warbler

EA: 20 Aug (3), *Lake* (JLs); 21 Aug, Jarvis (JIE); 21 Aug, Montrose (DKA); 21 Aug, ClintonL (MEF); 27 Aug, RSP (HDB). **MC**: see **EA** *Lake*; 3, Montrose, 21 Sep (JH). **LD**: 1 Oct, No Name Pk (BSf). **Others:** Banner (Fulton Co), 11 Sep (DHh); Walkerville (Greene Co), 29 Aug (DHh); Walnut Point SP (Douglas Co), 4 Sep (DHh); CarlL-C, 30 Aug (DMK:ph); *Jasper*, 22 Sep (CLH); *Richland*, 16 Sep (CLH). Reported in 24 counties.

Kentucky Warbler

EA: 29 Aug, Sand (CDn); 3 & 5 Sep, CarlL-C (C & KH; DMK). **LD:** Hosah Pk–Zion Pk Dist, 22 Sep (NT). **Others**: Little Wabash Levee (Edwards Co), 7 Sep (RES). Reported in 8 counties.

Common Yellowthroat

MC: 28, Burnidge FP (Kane Co), 20 Sep (JWn); 27, Midewin, 21 Sep (JLc); 23, Silver Creek Preserve (St. Clair Co), 24 Sep (KH); 23, GLPSNA, 27 Sep (JLc); 21, Spring Bluff FP, 6 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 29 Nov, Dixon WR (DFS); 20 Nov, Olive Pk (JIE). Reported in 61 counties.

Hooded Warbler

EA: 24 Aug, Lincoln Pk, Chi – Marovitz Golf Course (LGM). **LD:** 28 Sep, Lyons Prairie (Lake Co) (ES); 23 Sep, York Wds FP (DuPage Co) (ASn:ph, RSn). **Others**: Gillson, 18 Sep (EWW); New Salem SP (Menard Co), 15 Sep (DHh). Reported in 7 counties (some still singing in Aug).

American Redstart

EA: 26 July, Montrose (FRM); 2 Aug, Lighthouse Beach, Evanston (IOB); 18 Aug, WP, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 120, CarlL-C, 27 Sep (DMK); 45, Burnham Pk – McCormick NA, 8 Sep (JIE,DFS); 37, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn). **LD**: 3-13 Nov, Montrose (FRM:ph, KK, LGM, m.obs.); 10 Oct, SandRidge (CDn); 10 Oct, Schroeder Nature Sanctuary (McLean Co) (PA,TG); 5 Oct, Center Pk, Sang (HDB). Reported in 58 counties.

Cape May Warbler

EA: 12 Aug, Montrose (LGM); 17 Aug, Pleasant Valley CA (McHenry Co) (EP). **MC**: 11, Gillson, 18 Sep (EWW); 9, Burnham Pk--McCormick NA, 8 Sep (JIE,DFS); 9, JP, 19 Sep (RDS); 9 Cal Pk, 11 Sep (ASA); 9, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co), 30 Sep (V & GT). **LD**: 18 Oct(2), CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 12 Oct, Elsens Hill (PAM); 12 Oct, Gillson (RJD); 12 Oct, Cal Pk (WJM). Reported in 27 counties.

Cerulean Warbler

Sinnissippi Pk (Whiteside Co) (imm.), 24 Sep (DTW). **LD**: 25 Sep (im. female), Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB).

Northern Parula

EA: 27 Aug, NoP (JIN). **MC**: 12, CarlL-C, 12 & 26-27 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 8 Nov, Chi (CBCM); 20 Oct, Orland Grassland (Cook Co) (MMe); 10 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK); 4 Oct, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB). Reported in 42 counties.

Chestnut-sided Warbler. Eldon Hazlet State Park. Clinton County. 6 September 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Magnolia Warbler

EA: 15 Aug, Winnemac Park (MCD); 15 Aug, MArb (VS); 26 Aug (2) RSP & WP, Sang (HDB); 24 Aug LShel (RB); 30 Aug, CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 90, CarlL-C, 9 Sep (DMK:ph); 38, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB); 19, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn). **LD**: 25 Nov, GrantPk, Millennium Pk (TS:ph); 2 Nov, Montrose (DKA, FRM); 22 Oct, LLCC (VMK). Reported in 56 counties.

Bay-breasted Warbler

EA: 20 Aug, Izaak Walton Preserve, Homewood (Cook Co) (PLr); 28 Aug, Marine Pt, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 19, Montrose, 20 Sep (TK); 11, Montrose, 13 Sep (LCn); 9, Crystal Lake Pk (Champaign Co), 27 Sep (JB). **LD**: 22 Oct, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB); 14 Oct, NPBW (GAW, SHn:ph). Reported in 40 counties.

Blackburnian Warbler

EA: 12 Aug, CarlL-C (CLH); 15 Aug(2), Montrose (GAW); 19 Aug, WP, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 6, EwingP, 30 Aug (JP); 6, SandRidge, 29 Aug (CDn); 6, CarlL-C, 12 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 22 Oct, Beecher (SLe, KP). Reported in 40 counties.

Yellow Warbler

EA: 8 Aug, CarlL-C (DMK). **MC**: 8, Montrose, 15 Aug (GAW), 2 were singing birds, difficult to detect beginning of migration in Aug. **LD**: 6 Oct, Settler's Court ponds (Kane Co) (ASA). Reported in 31 counties.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

EA: 11 Aug (imm.), JP (RLS); 16 Aug(2), WP, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 32, Sang, 9 Sep (HDB); 22, SandRidge, 5 Sep (CDn); 16, JubileeC 19 Sep (EC). **LD**: 28 Oct, *Richland* (CLH); 10 Oct, Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co) (MSS); 8 Oct, Grassy Bay (Williamson Co) (JT); 7 Oct, LaBagh Woods FP, Chic (JRRS, LJK); 7 Oct, Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB). Reported in 51 counties.

Blackpoll Warbler,

EA: 16 Aug, Salt Creek Woods NP (Cook Co) (DFS). **MC**: 30, NoP, 13 Sep (SJH); 30, Montrose, 20 Sep (DBC); 30, Gillson, 12 Oct (RJD). **LD**: 21 Oct, NPM (EWW); 21 Oct, Montrose (ASA); 21 Oct, Jarvis (LGM). **Others**: Minonk (Woodford Co), 23 Sep (TH); Lincoln Gds, Sang 6 Oct (HDB); Lk Charleston (Coles Co), 11 Oct (RB); CarlL-C, 10 Oct (DMK:ph); Giant City SP (Union Co), 30 Sep (JT). Reported in 34 counties.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

EA: 15 Aug, Jarvis (LGM, RDH). **MC**: 3, Midewin, 21 Sep (JnG); 3, Montrose, 7-17 Sep (DT, ASA:ph, JBs, m.obs.); 3, Eggers Grove FP, Chi (WJM); 3, Raccoon Grove FP (Will Co), 22 Sep (DZ). **LD**: 24 Oct, *Marion* (RES). **Others**: Rocky Waters Vineyard (Jo Daveiss Co), 24 Sep (RSp); Minonk (Woodford Co), 10 Sep (TH); Transit Quercus Grove Trail and Old Carpenter Rd (Madison Co), 5 Oct (DLy); CarlL-F, 20 Sep (MSS); CarlL-C, 24 Sep (RHs). Reported in 20 counties.

Palm Warbler

EA: 22 Aug, Carbondale Reservoir (Jackson Co) (HDr); 26 Aug, Belmont Harbor, Chi (JDC). **MC**: 168, Park No. 566, Chi, 7 Oct (CGi); 60, Montrose, 7 Oct (DKA). **LD**: 30 Nov, Montrose (MMC); 26 Nov, NoP (SJH:ph); 24 Nov, Montrose (ASA); 23 Nov, KankakeePks (JBH); 22 Nov, EForkL (CLH). Reported in 49 counties.

Pine Warbler

EA: 23 Sep, Oak Ridge, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 5, WaterfallGlen, 20 Aug (MAM); 5, Devils Kitchen (Williamson Co), 3 Sep (DMn); 5, Lusk Creek Indian Kitchen Trail (Pope Co), 20 Sep (AP) **LD**: 22 Oct, Forbes SP (Marion Co) (CLH); 17 Oct, Rosehill Cem, Chi (MCD). **Others**: Edward R. Madigan SP (Logan Co), 15 Sep (DHh); CarlL-C, 4 Oct (DMK); Reported in 30 counties.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

EA: 7 Aug, Lyman Woods FP (DuPage Co) (PCd:ph). **MC**: 300, CarlL-C, 10 &14 Oct (DMK); 200, GrantPk, 7 Oct (DEW). Reported in 70 counties.

Yellow-throated Warbler

MC: 5, Carbondale Reservoir (Jackson Co), 22 Aug (HDr). **LD**: 12 Oct, Detweiller Pk (Peoria Co) (MHB). **Others**: Valley, Rock Island Trail (Stark Co), 12 Sep (DHh). Reported in 22 counties.

Prairie Warbler

EA: 20 Aug, WaterfallGlen (MAM). **LD**: 23 Sep, Pratt's Wayne Woods FP (DuPage Co) (JCa); *Richland*, 12 Aug (CLH).

Black-throated Green Warbler

EA: 10 Aug, McDowell Grove FP (PAM), 18 Aug, Wauk (JGk). **MC**: 120, 3 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK); 12, NU Lakefill, Evanston (Cook Co), 30 Aug (IOB); 12, Sang, 24 Sep (HDB). **LD**: 1 Nov, Douglas Park, Chi (EDG:ph); 30 Oct, Montrose (LGM:ph); 24 Oct, Union Hill (Jackson Co) (JT); 22 Oct, Lake Shore East Park, Chi (LR); 22 Oct (2), Lincoln Gds, Sang (HDB). Reported in 52 counties.

Canada Warbler

EA: 15 Aug, MArb (JZ, m.obs.); 20 Aug(2), RSP, Sang (HDB). **MC**: 5, Montrose, 21 Aug (JPi, GAW, m.obs.). **LD**: 25 Sep, *Monroe* (PDh). Reported in 24 counties.

Wilson's Warbler

EA: 12 Aug, NoP (GAW, m.obs.). **MC**: 9, NoP, 13 Sep (SJH). **LD**: 4 Dec, LSpfld (HDB); 9 Nov, LincolnPk, SoP (MIi). Reported in 32 counties.

Summer Tanager

MC: 5, *Jackson*, 16 Sep (RPl); 4, CarlL-C, 3 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 6 Oct, Lake Kinkaid, Dam trail (Jackson Co) (JT). **Others**: LaBagh Woods FP, Chi, 19 Sep (JRRS, FRM); Camp Wokanda (Peoria Co), 10 Sep (EC). Reported in 28 counties.

Scarlet Tanager

MC: 7, Elsens Hill, 31 Aug (PAM); 7, Burnidge FP (Kane Co), 12 Sep (JWn). **LD**: 10 Oct, CarlL-C (DMK:ph); 8 Oct, Lyman Woods FP (DuPage Co) (SLr); 7 Oct, Ryerson CA (Lake Co) (JRS); 7 Oct, *Edwards* (RES); Reported in 35 counties.

Northern Cardinal

MC: 43, Double T SFWA (Fulton Co), 15 Nov (MHB); 36, Pratt's Wayne Wds FP, 24 Nov (KW). Reported in 93 counties.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

MC: 16, York Wds FP (DuPage Co) 20 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 6 Nov, Des Plaines River area, River Grove (Cook Co) (SSz:ph). Reported in 58 counties.

Black-throated Green Warbler. South Shore State Park. Clinton County. 20 September 2015. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Wilson's Warbler. Montrose, Chicago. Cook County. 8 September 2015. Photo by Wes Serafin.

Blue Grosbeak

MC: 13, BaileyWet, 18 Aug (CLH); 6, CarlL-C, 13 Sep (DMK); 5, *Edwards*, 26 Sep (RES). **LD**: 3 Oct, Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary, Sang (CLe); 27 Sep, MArb (JDC). Reported in 40 counties.

Indigo Bunting

MC: 32, Chicago Portage Wds, 6 Sep (LR); 27, Silver Creek Preserve (St. Clair Co), 24 Sep (KH). **LD**: 25 Oct, Carlyle Sewage Ponds (Clinton Co.) (MSS); 20 Oct, Grant Pk – Museum Campus, Chi (BF). Reported in 73 counties.

Dickcissel

MC: 32, Double T SFWA (Fulton Co), 8 Aug (MHB). **LD**: 21 Oct, Hickory Ridge NP (Douglas Co) (TDF); 18 Oct, BaileyWet (Wayne Co) (CLH). Reported in 47 counties.

ADDENDUM:

Willet

EA: 6 July 2014, L&D 21, Quincy (Adams Co) (PJR, PR).

EXOTICS:

European Golfinch

Wauk (9), 21 Oct (NCl). This species is detected frequently now in NE Illinois.

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Champaign County.
5 September 2015.
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